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8-page supplement

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Levy willing to meet Arafat at EU

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Foreign Minister David Levy is angling for a meeting in Brussels this week with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, but only if Arafat acts effectively against alleged terrorist infiltration of his police force.

Making no bones about his interest in conferring with the Palestinian leader while attending a European Union foreign ministers' conference, Levy said a rendezvous in the Belgian capital could "set things right" and advance the peace process.

PA Planning Minister Nabil Shaath stood at Levy's side in Jerusalem when he declared that the peace process cannot make progress "in an atmosphere of violence, incitement, burning of Israeli flags, and terrorist activity by the Palestinian Police."

Levy said that his primary objective in going to Brussels is to attend the EU council of ministers meeting, but he would not object to a meeting with Arafat.

"If Arafat happens to be there or not is not for me to determine," he said. "If he is there and wants to hold a meeting, why not? I do not anticipate, am not asking, and do not invite."

The Levy-Shaath talks were initiated by EU peace envoy Miguel Moratinos of Spain.

Shaath was ambiguous about the possibility of a follow-up session between Levy and Arafat in Brussels. "President Arafat has not yet taken a decision to go," Shaath said, "but certainly if he goes, he will meet with Mr. Levy in Brussels." Shaath also plans to attend the EU gathering.

Moratinos described the discussion between Levy and Shaath as having been held in "a very friendly atmosphere" and said another step had been taken to get the peace process back on track.

"The meeting between Minister Levy and President Arafat still is possible," he said. "It depends on President Arafat's agenda. I think that if President Arafat will be in Brussels there will be a meeting."



Residents of Beit Jann gather outside the Supreme Court in Jerusalem yesterday to protest a court ruling to close a road they built to the nearby village of Hurfeish. (Flash 90/Courtesy of 'Ma'ariv')

25 hurt in Supreme Court protest

By BAT-SHEVA TSUR and Kim

Twenty policemen and five residents of the Druze village of Beit Jann in Galilee were injured yesterday when the villagers rioted outside the Supreme Court in Jerusalem to protest a court ruling to close an illegally built road.

The Beit Jann residents were incensed by an interim injunction issued by the High Court of Justice in Jerusalem to close a road they had built connecting their village with the neighboring Druze village of Hurfeish.

Hundreds of villagers had arrived at the court to hear the petition lodged by the Nature Reserves

Authority against the Beit Jann local council, which built the road through the Mount Meron Nature Reserve, in the middle of the night, some two years ago. The authority charged that the road was built without a permit and was causing damage to the reserve. The issue has been in and out of the courtrooms since then.

Yesterday, when the court ruled that the road should be closed in two weeks, the villagers rushed angrily outside and began stoning police and border police who had been brought in to quell possible disturbances.

Five of the rioters and 20 policemen were treated by MDA paramedics on the spot, and 10 policemen required hospitalization.

Beit Jann residents will block the closure of the road with their bodies, said council head Yusef Kahlan.

"Only when our blood is split does the State of Israel recognize us," said another irate resident of the village, which has lost a number of sons serving in the IDF.

"The Druze are discriminated against all the time. [authorities] are prepared to throw all these people to the wind just to preserve some field mice and snakes in their natural habitat," said the father of one of the soldiers killed in the IAF helicopter collision in February. "I have built

a monument to my son along that road. Do they want me to ride there with a donkey?"

PM slams PA Police terrorism

Palestinians find bomb factory in Bethlehem

By JAY BUSHINSKY and MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

The alleged penetration of the Palestinian Authority's police force by terrorist elements capable of operating as an underground network throughout the autonomous areas drew harsh words from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at yesterday's cabinet session and in talks with Japan's defense minister.

Netanyahu referred to the arrest last week of three Palestinian police officers by Israeli troops and the subsequent charge that they had been sent on a hit-and-run killing spree at the Har Bracha settlement southeast of Nablus.

The case's gravity and the cabinet's concern were deepened by

charges that commander of the West Bank and Gaza police force, Brig.-Gen. Ghazi Jabali, masterminded the operation. Israel is demanding his arrest.

Netanyahu told ministers the Palestinian Police's involvement in terrorism is "a most blatant violation" of the agreements with the PA.

"The Palestinian Police was brought into the area to fight terrorism, not to engage in it," he said, contending that it was the PA's duty to uproot this outgrowth. Netanyahu demanded that the PA "fulfill its obligations ... in the domain of security and in other aspects so that it will be possible to continue the political process."

See PM, Page 9

Hospital workers to strike today

By JUDY SEGEL

Eleven state hospitals will operate on an emergency schedule today, as 20,000 workers hold a one-day warning strike to protest government violations of their contracts. The strikers include nurses, pharmacists, X-ray technicians, microbiologists,

biochemists, and maintenance and administrative workers.

As a result of Treasury cuts, hospital managements closed down staff cafeterias yesterday and plan to halt the use of security companies and cancel payments such as car allowances and holiday gifts to staffers and pensioners.

Due to the strike all non-emergency operations are cancelled for the day, and diagnostic institutes will be closed.

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza called on staffers not to strike so as not to harm patients. The measures taken by hospital managements to reduce expenditures "do not justify a strike," he said.

Mesmerizing medics: Hadassah's hypnotic Rx

By JUDY SEGEL

Hypnosis is being used at a Jerusalem hospital for gynecologists to help women deliver babies or to insert an intrauterine device without anxiety, and for gastroenterologists to relieve irritable bowel syndrome or examine the upper digestive system without a tranquilizer.

Management of the Hadassah-University Hospital in Ein Kerem has approved in principle the establishment of a hypnosis center to use the subconscious for treating organic conditions, easing childbirth, relieving chronic pain, and conducting painful diagnostic tests without anesthesia. It will be the first of its kind in the country.

Dr. Uriel Elchalal of the gynecology/obstetrics department and Dr. Joseph Zimmerman of gastroenterology both have completed special hypnosis courses and received a Health Ministry certificate enabling them to use the technique on selected patients. They believe that hypnosis, which is becoming increasingly popular for treating non-psychiatric illnesses in the US and Europe, will eventually be widely used here for a variety of systemic conditions and

procedures.

In the gynecology department, Elchalal is reportedly the first in any hospital to use hypnosis to treat vaginismus (involuntary contractions of the vagina that prevent intercourse), carry out a biopsy of the cervix, insert an IUD, and even to ease giving birth. It also is used when general anesthesia is considered too dangerous and for minor surgical procedures.

"It isn't difficult to persuade patients to undergo hypnosis in these circumstances," said Elchalal, who has been using the technique for four months and treated dozens of patients. "They know they won't be taken advantage of. When hypnotized, they aren't in a state of amnesia, but awake, and we use it only to treat, never for observation by other doctors. It's a tool; it can't be used on every patient or in every condition."

Elchalal conducts preliminary exercises on candidates to see whether they have enough suggestibility. If so, the gynecologist has three to 10 sessions with the patient to analyze the structure of her personality. The patient can enter a state of autohypnosis after being trained by the expert and use it on an ongoing basis.

He notes that he never uses hypnosis on patients who suffer from paranoia, schizophrenia, or other mental disorders, as this could be dangerous.

Medical hypnosis can be espe-

cially useful for children who are anxious or need to undergo painful procedures or scans that require complete immobility, added Zimmerman, since the "most suggestible age" is between eight and 12 years.

The Hadassah gastroenterologist finds the technique very useful for patients with irritable bowel syndrome, as the digestive tract has "more neurons than the spine, but there are few medications that alleviate it. It also reduces anxiety in patients with Crohn's disease

and colitis."

Nine out of 10 people, Zimmerman said, can enter a hypnotic trance of some degree.

"The level of suggestibility does not determine how successful the treatment will be; some don't go in very deep, but they benefit nevertheless," he said.

Hypnosis, he added, also is used on cancer patients in Hadassah's Sharet Institute for Oncology. It can be offered in groups or customized for each individual patient.

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NEWS

in brief

Father, daughter drown off Ashdod beach

A Modi'in resident and his nine-year-old daughter drowned off an Ashdod beach last night, shortly after the lifeguards left for the day. Another daughter, 7, was rescued by other bathers and taken to Ashdod's Barzilai Hospital. "Dad went into the water. Then my sister went in and began to scream. He tried to save her and he too disappeared between the waves. I began to cry and went towards them and I drowned too," the seven-year-old said. *Itim*

Car crashes into train in Lod, killing one

A Lod resident was killed and two people were seriously injured yesterday when a car crashed into a train in Lod. The car had been moving alongside the train tracks, and the driver suddenly attempted to cross them, crashing into the train. The injured were taken to Assaf Harofeh Hospital. Police are investigating the incident. *Itim*

Shahak probes fatal accidents involving soldiers

Chief of General Staff Lt. Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak conducted an investigation yesterday into road accidents last week that claimed the lives of six soldiers. The initial findings, which Shahak ordered distributed to all IDF units, indicate an excessive load on drivers, skirting orders, and lack of discipline.

The chief of staff also decided to delay a ceremony for outstanding units due to take place today because some of the units had soldiers involved in last week's accidents. *Itim*

Greenpeace protests against PVC near Acre

Greenpeace activists staged a demonstration near the giant Electrochemical Industries plant south of Acre yesterday to protest against the manufacture of what they described as "dangerous and toxic" PVC used in the plastics trade. The environmentalists, from the Greenpeace ship Sirius which is currently in Haifa port, joined local activists of the international organization in the demonstration. Electrochemical Industries managing-director Zvika Greengold rejected the Greenpeace allegations. He said PVC, a derivative of chlorine, "doesn't endanger anybody or anything." *David Rudge*

Hebron church: PA has apologized

Representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, whose monastery in Hebron was seized by Palestinian Authority Police two weeks ago, said that the PA has apologized for its action and said the monastery should be returned to the expatriate church. In a press release last week, the church said that it had apologized for its members, who had barred the Patriarch of Moscow when he arrived at the monastery with PA Chairman Yasser Arafat last month. The statement also said that PA Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Nabil Shaath had admitted that the PA had acted improperly by seizing the monastery and turning it over to clergy of the Moscow-based Russian Patriarchate.

Today, church representatives are to meet with PA Justice Minister Fehil Abu Meidein. *Haim Shapiro*

Palestinian land dealer tells how he escaped PA jail

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

In an unprecedented move, a Palestinian land dealer who escaped from a Palestinian prison last week agreed to talk to the press in Jerusalem yesterday. The press conference at Beit Agron was set up by the civil rights organization, B'Tzedek, and the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

Wearing a blue cap and sunglasses to protect his identity, 54-year-old Mohammed (not his real name) talked about his six-week ordeal that included electric-shock treatment, being hung from the ceiling by his hands, and other methods of torture used by Palestinian interrogators.

"On May 18, Palestinian police arrived at my home and asked me to go with them for an hour to talk, adding that they would bring me back home," he said.

According to Mohammed, he was taken from his West Bank village to Nablus, where he was held in a 3-by-4-meter cell along with 11 others. For two weeks, he said, he was tied by his hands to the ceiling, whipped, and had a sack thrown over his head and electric probes attached to his body. He was later sent to work on a labor detail, which gave him the opportunity to plan his escape.

During the next four weeks, Mohammed built a stairwell in a building, not cementing one of the large slabs. Last Tuesday, Mohammed hid under the slab from 5 p.m. until 2 a.m. the next day, when he escaped from the prison. "Guards are only placed at the prison's entrance," he said.

Mohammed ran to his home village, which he reached 14 hours



'Mohammed,' a Palestinian land dealer who escaped from a PA prison last week, gestures at a news conference in Jerusalem yesterday. (Isaac Harari)

later, and contacted relatives who live in Israel. They met him and smuggled him into Israel, notify-

ing the settlers' council yesterday morning.

B'Tzedek attorney Michael

Teplow said Mohammed's wife and family are still in the village, and efforts are being made to get

them out.

"He hasn't seen his family but managed to notify them that he is out of prison," said Teplow. Shortly after his escape from the prison, said Aharon Domb, secretary-general of the settlers' council, Palestinian Preventive Security chief Jibril Rajoub's men arrived at Mohammed's home.

Teplow and Domb both mentioned that during Mohammed's incarceration, he met with International Red Cross officials and asked for their assistance. "They turned him down, saying they were unable to help," said Domb.

Persuading Mohammed to appear publicly was not an easy task but says Teplow he had no other alternative, adding that another Palestinian land dealer who escaped from a PA prison a month ago refused to take part in the press conference.

According to Teplow, there are numerous land deals taking place throughout Judea and Samaria. "People feel they prefer to wait until later when their land will be under Palestinian control," he said. At the prison where Mohammed was incarcerated, there were 40 other members from his village suspected of selling land to settlers, he said.

Both B'Tzedek and the settlers' council are assisting Mohammed and protecting him until a permanent solution to ensure his safety is found. They are demanding that the government issue permits to Palestinian land dealers to enable them to reside in Israel. In addition, they want a shelter or village to be set up for land dealers and their families.

Levine: IDF acting with restraint in Lebanon, but tensions could escalate

By DAVID RUDGE

Fighting in south Lebanon was on the verge of deteriorating into cross-border attacks last week, OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine revealed last night.

He said calm had since been restored, but tension remained high and there is no guarantee that the situation might not flare-up in the future.

Levine said that the IDF, for its part, was doing everything possible to prevent Katyusha rocket attacks on Galilee, including acting with great restraint during the tension last week. He could not rule out the possibility, however, that Hizbullah might initiate bombardments at some stage.

Levine spoke during a meeting with the heads of confrontation-line communities at northern command headquarters following mortar and rocket attacks by Hizbullah last week on IDF positions along the northern border.

Some rockets and mortar rounds fell inside Israeli territory in Western Galilee and the Galilee panhandle, without causing any casualties or damage.

"The situation is tense, first and foremost because Hizbullah is not succeeding in achieving its aims and is suffering losses," Levine told the council leaders.

He said that although the situation had calmed somewhat, a situation could arise which might deteriorate into Katyusha rocket attacks.

"I think, however, that the combination of several factors - that the IDF is doing everything in its power so that there won't be a deterioration, that there are meetings of the (Grapes of Wrath) monitoring group which has proved itself, as well as the understanding by Hizbullah that Katyusha rocket attacks would lead to severe blows to the organization and the Lebanese administration - are likely to prevent such an event," said Levine.

He stressed that the IDF would not initiate any offensive action which would cause an escalation and put residents of northern communities in bomb shelters.

"But the other side (Hizbullah), either due to loss of control or because of casualties to Lebanese civilians, could drag us into Katyusha rocket fire," said Levine.

"In such a situation, our attitude would be to respond with such force so that it would cease immediately. Whether this would work 100 percent, I cannot say, because there is the other side," he said.

The council leaders said they had complete faith that the IDF will do everything possible to prevent rocket attacks on the Galilee. But Ma'alot Mayor Shlomo Buhut, chairman of the Forum of Heads of Confrontation Line Communities, said the councils had still not received additional aid promised them after Operation Grapes of Wrath.

Three arrested for hanging anti-Mordechai banners

Lod police arrested three Jerusalem residents yesterday morning suspected of hanging banners critical of Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai. They were arrested at the Lod Interchange, where a four-meter-long banner was hung, declaring, "Yitzhak Mordechai is a failure, [National Infrastructure Minister] Arieh Sharon for defense. [Signed] Citizens for Defense." Similar banners were found in their car. *Itim*

Correction

The capital of Kazakhstan is Almaty, also known as Alma-ata, and not as reported in yesterday's paper.

Our sincere condolences to the
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Beit Shemesh angry over Naharayim verdict

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Calling it "a shame and a disgrace," AMIT Puert school principal Moshe Yablovitz blasted a Jordanian military court's sentencing of Cpl. Ahmed Daqamsa to life imprisonment for the slaying of seven of Yablovitz's pupils at Naharayim on March 13.

"This is especially the case because in Jordan they have the death penalty, which is the only fitting punishment for murdering innocent young girls," he said yesterday. "This is especially true in light of the fact that the king himself, at the time, asked why his comrades didn't open fire on [Daqamsa] and kill him. They've made a mockery of the trial."

Yablovitz said he believed that if the political atmosphere in Jordan changes, Daqamsa could be released.

"He will get out," he said. "Since a life sentence is equal to 25 years of hard labor in Jordan, figure out how many years he received for each girl he killed," the principal added.

"We thought he'd get the death sentence, and then they'd appeal, and the king would then commute his sentence to life imprisonment," he said. "But to give him life imprisonment from the outset—that's not serious. We're very, very disappointed."

Motti Farber, principal of the Beit Shemesh school's junior-high program, said, "We know there will be pressure, and who knows if in 10 or 20 years this guy won't go free. I can understand the feeling of the parents, there's a feeling that something has been left open, and not closed."

"I think that it's more for the feelings of the parents, not for any desire for revenge, that the death penalty would have been justified for his actions. This feeling that maybe one day this guy will be walking free has left a bitter taste."

Shimon Cohen, whose daughter Nirit was killed in the attack, said the parents "are angry over the fact that he didn't get the death penalty. Based on the king's visit, we were sure that he would be executed. The penalty for murder [in Jordan] is death, and he should have received seven death sentences, but he didn't even get one."

"However, Cohen added that he had been "sure he'd only get life imprisonment," noting that the Israeli government has never implemented a death sentence against terrorists it has captured.

Making clear that the other parents do not necessarily agree with his point of view, Cohen said: "[Jordan's King] Hussein did exactly what we do with terrorists. If this soldier had crossed the border, shot the girls, and been caught on our soil, he would've ended up with life imprisonment. We can't ask others to do what we don't do."

Palestinian group questions status of women in Israel

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK — Israel presented its report on the status of women to the UN's Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women last week and faced immediate probing about its treatment of Palestinian women citizens.

Since independence, the issue of women's status had been on the national agenda. Nili Arad, director-general of the Justice Ministry, told the committee on Thursday. There has been continuous legislation, primarily in the fields of education, employment, and welfare, to advance women's rights, Israel said in a 266-page report covering the legal and social progress Israel has made in meeting the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

But the Israeli report drew fire from a "shadow" group on the Status of Palestinian Women in Israel, a coalition representing non-governmental organizations assisting Palestinian citizens.

"Since the establishment of the state, all of its governments have practiced systematic discrimination against the Palestinian nation against the Palestinian minority," said lawyer Suhad Bishara, a member of the group. Arad was expected to respond to the committee today to answer questions posed by committee members, including an explana-

tion of the assertion that all citizens enjoyed equal opportunities even though Israel is a Jewish state. Many questions are based on issues covered in the Palestinian report, entitled "The Status of Palestinian Women Citizens of Israel."

Among the issues raised by committee members: that there is disparate funding for Jewish and Arab education; what steps are being taken to integrate Israeli Palestinian women fully into society; and what action is being taken to deal with such traditional Moslem practices as honor killings, polygamy, and female circumcision?

The panel is reviewing how nations are implementing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. Eight other states are to present reports to the panel of 23 experts, which includes an Israeli, Carmel Shalev.

Israel's turn came the same week that it was condemned by the General Assembly, for the third time, for construction at Har Homa. Committee members suggested that resuming the construction could affect the well-being of Palestinian women.

The Palestinian group was formed a year ago because the initial Israeli report, only 14 pages, had only two brief references to Palestinian women, said Aida Toma-Suliman of the Association of Women Against Violence.



Save the Children

Aliza Olmert (left), wife of Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, joins protesters yesterday at a demonstration against plans to cut funding for programs for troubled children. The signs read: "Don't close the clubhouses" and "Apathy permeates the government," and accuses the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry of neglect.

(Isaac Harari)

Dead Sea Scrolls conference opens

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH

The largest scholarly conclave on the Dead Sea Scrolls ever held opened last night at the Israel Museum.

Some 120 lectures are to be delivered to 350 participants from 25 countries during the week-long congress. The event is being held to mark the 50th anniversary of the discovery of the scrolls by a Beduin near Qumran.

At a press conference yesterday, Israel Museum director James Snyder termed the scrolls "the most significant patrimony of the state of Israel and one of the most significant in the history of mankind."

Emanuel Tov, editor-in-chief of the Dead Sea Scrolls publication project, noted that only eight volumes of scroll material had been published in the first 40 years since their discovery. Since his appointment in 1991, 12 more have been published, four in the past year. The remainder of the 38-volume project probably will be published by 2001 or 2002, he said. In terms of wordage, more than 90 percent of scroll material already has been published.

The congress is likely to elicit lively, even bitter, debate among scholars whose reputations are staked to one or another interpretation of scroll material. Long-held assumptions that the scrolls were produced by the Essene sect at Qumran are challenged by some scholars who believe that all or most were written elsewhere and some who challenge the very existence of a sect at Qumran.

Eskin gets four months for curse on Rabin

The Jerusalem Magistrate's Court sentenced right-wing extremist Avigdor Eskin yesterday to four months in prison for putting a curse on prime minister Yitzhak Rabin a month before he was assassinated.

Eskin was also given a year's suspended sentence for violating a section of the Prevention of Terrorism Act which bars incitement to violence.

He was convicted on two counts: declaring that the ancient curse of *pulsa dinura* (Aramaic for "lashes of fire") applied to Rabin; and organizing a *pulsa dinura* ceremony against Shimon Peres after he succeeded Rabin as prime minister.

Eskin stood outside Rabin's house on the eve of Yom Kippur in 1995 and put a curse on the prime minister that read in part: "And on him, Yitzhak, son of Rosa, known as Rabin, we have permission...to demand from the angels of destruction that they take a sword to this wicked man...to kill him...for handing over the Land of Israel to our enemies."



Avigdor Eskin gets four-month sentence. (Brian Hendler)

He said the curse generally worked within 30 days. Thirty-two days later, on November 4, Yigal Amir murdered Rabin.

After the spate of terrorist attacks during Peres's premiership in 1996, Eskin organized a *pulsa dinura* ceremony against Peres.

Judge Belha Kahane said in her ruling: "Eskin's words, at the time they were said and in the way they were said, were words of praise and admiration for a violent act that could lead to the death or injury of a person, or to threats of such acts, especially after the murder of a prime minister from which we learned the power of words."

Eskin announced he would appeal the sentence if he is not allowed to serve it in Yigal Amir's cell in Beersheba. Amir is being held in solitary confinement.

Eskin's attorney, Naftali Wertzberger, called the sentence "unusually harsh" and said "Eskin was sent to jail because the atmosphere of incitement entered the courtroom."

Wertzberger said he intended to appeal both the verdict and the sentence.

(News agencies)

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Nissim Reuben,
Member of the Indian delegation.

The traditional March of the Delegations* for the 15th Maccabiah will take place on the final day of competitions, Tuesday, July 24th at 4:30PM. Delegations will march around the walls of Jerusalem. The march will commence from Safra square, Jaffa St., King George, Ben Yehuda, Bezael, and Sacher Park. The public is invited to join in this salute to thousands of Jewish athletes from around the world. The Maccabiah Organization Committee.

* Traditional the March will take place at the opening Ceremony.

Athletes of the 15th Maccabiah

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ARIEL

NEWS

in brief

Queen Elizabeth avid Net surfer

LONDON (Reuters) - Britain's Queen Elizabeth loves to surf the Internet and has become an avid fan of the information superhighway, the *Sunday Times* reported.

Coached by her husband the Duke of Edinburgh, she has become a devotee of cyberspace and likes to address her subjects by e-mail.

A website set up in February to give information on Britain's 1,000-year-old monarchy has proved to be a phenomenal success with almost one million people a week logging in from around the world.

The paper said that Queen Elizabeth, who oversaw the site's design, scans its public message book with growing fascination.

It said the monarch is now thought to use the net to exchange information on current affairs with highly placed confidantes around Britain and the Commonwealth states that were once Britain's former colonies.

China landslide kills 48

BEIJING (AP) - A landslide triggered by heavy rains has killed 48 people and injured another 40 in southwestern Sichuan province, an official report said Saturday.

The landslide struck Thursday, in Xingwen county, some 1,400 kilometers southwest of Beijing, the newspaper China Daily reported, citing a local radio broadcast.

The report did not provide further details.

A landslide Tuesday in neighboring Guizhou province killed 31 people.

The deaths from the landslides increased the number killed in this summer's seasonal rains to 221.

Floods in the south and drought in the north have damaged some 12 million hectares of farmland. The government has acknowledged this year's grain harvest will fall short of 1996's 490 million metric tons.

In addition to Sichuan and Guizhou, deaths have been reported in Guangdong, Jiangxi and Zhejiang provinces and the region of Guangxi.

Wrecking ball kills Montana driver

SHEPHERD, Montana (AP) - A 1,360-kilo wrecking ball rolled off a flatbed truck, bounced down the highway and smashed into a car, killing the driver last week.

Police were investigating how the ball got loose. No charges were filed against the truck driver.

IRA truce takes hold

By ANDREW HILL

BELFAST (Reuters) - An IRA truce after 28 years of violence in Northern Ireland took effect yesterday, hailed as the key to lasting peace by Irish nationalists and denounced as a ploy by pro-British Unionists.

David Trimble, head of the Ulster Unionist Party (UUP), planned talks with British Prime Minister Tony Blair today to determine whether his group will continue to take part in peace talks if Sinn Féin joins in six weeks' time.

Trimble made no public comment. But UUP spokesmen and leaders of the smaller Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) said the Irish Republican Army cease-fire was purely cosmetic because the IRA would not have to hand over a single weapon.

The IRA issued no fresh statement after its announcement on Saturday of a "complete cessation" to its war against British rule of Northern Ireland, which will admit Sinn Féin to the Belfast talks in September if Britain deems the truce genuine.

Gerry Adams, head of the IRA's political wing, Sinn Féin, poured scorn on media reports that IRA commanders would review the truce after four months to see what progress had been made at the Belfast talks towards their goal of a united Ireland.

"I think it is disgraceful journalism. I think it is totally irresponsible. It is the first I've heard of this," he said.

He hailed the IRA cease-fire as "the start of a new and challenging era" and urged Unionists "to declare a cessation (cease-fire) in their heads."

But DUP deputy leader Peter Robinson said the reports in

Dublin's *Sunday Tribune* and London's *Sunday Times* underlined that a political party with armed supporters would be joining peace talks without a single gun being surrendered.

"What we have according to our newspapers this morning is a cease-fire which will last for four months unless significant concessions are made to the Provos (IRA). That is not a cease-fire in any real sense," Robinson told Sky Television.

The cease-fire was welcomed as a significant step to ending a conflict that has killed 3,200 by the governments of Britain, Ireland and the United States.

But Unionists were sharply critical of Anglo-Irish proposals to relegate the surrender of IRA arms to a sub-committee of the talks rather than demand that the IRA hand over weapons before they start to prove a commitment to democracy.

The Anglo-Irish proposals on "parallel decommissioning" were framed as a compromise after the IRA refused to hand over weapons to earn admission to the talks and ended a 17-month cease-fire in February last year.

"Unless we get disarmament, unless we get people committed to consent, we cannot expect that this is going to be other than the farce it was two years ago," Ken Maginnis of the UUP said.

"We will be going (to see Blair) with an open mind. We will be fearful of the outcome nonetheless," he said.

"I don't have the right to pollute democracy in this way," said Maginnis, describing Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams as "the leader of Europe's biggest terrorist organization." Adams says Sinn Féin and the IRA are separate organizations with the shared goal of ending British rule.



Sean Jefcoat, 6, looks through a soldier's rifle sights in west Belfast yesterday after the renewed IRA cease-fire began. (Reuters)

Robinson said he would block the decommissioning proposal when it is voted on next Wednesday. "We would not take part in a process with those who are wedded to violence," he said.

There was little public euphoria. Church services were held across the province and in the neighboring Irish republic but

jubilance was tempered by the realization that the political negotiations may become the next battlefield.

A 17-year-old Catholic was shot in the legs in an IRA-style "punishment shooting" on Saturday, hours before the IRA truce.

The shooting was typical of the kind of violence IRA squads

patrolling Catholic zones hand out to wayward youths and are supposed to stop under British demands for an end to violence.

John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labor Party, a moderate Irish nationalist group, urged all Unionists to accept that violence had ended with the IRA truce.

Italian premier, in Riyadh, slams Saudi death penalty

JIDDAH, Saudi Arabia (AP) - Italy's head of state, meeting with Saudi Arabia's king and justice minister, yesterday criticized the kingdom's use of the death penalty as well as difficulties in the country in practicing any religion other than Islam.

King Fahd "listened a lot, but he contended that [capital punishment] was an effective deterrent," Italian President Oscar Scalfaro told reporters, according to the Italian news agency AGI.

Saudi Arabia's Islamic courts impose the death penalty for rape, murder, drug trafficking and armed robbery.

So far this year, 67 people have been beheaded. Beheadings are carried out in public with a razor-sharp sword. In 1996, 71 people were executed.

The Italian president said he pointed out that Italy has abolished the death penalty because "He who gives life is God and no one has the right to snuff it out" and because there was no proof that capital punishment, when it existed, had lowered the crime rate in his country.

Scalfaro just two days earlier appealed to the gov-

ernor of the US state of Virginia to call off the execution of a convicted killer.

Wrapping up a two-day visit to boost ties with his country's top Gulf trade partner, Scalfaro held a news conference after meeting with the king and other senior officials, including Justice Minister Abdullah Sheikh.

Scalfaro said he mentioned that he is a big promoter, despite objections from conservatives in largely Catholic Italy, of the opening in Rome of an Islamic cultural center and of a mosque which towers over a posh neighborhood in the Italian capital.

"I feel like a creditor," Scalfaro said, but he indicated that the Saudi officials he talked with weren't giving in to his plea for more opportunity for non-Muslims in Saudi Arabia to practice other religions.

"It's true that there aren't any laws limiting the exercise of religion, but the reality is that there isn't any possibility" to do so, Scalfaro said.

There are no public worshipping places for non-Muslims in Saudi Arabia. Non-Muslims usually congregate at their embassies for religious services.

Another mob murder reported in Italy

CASERTA, Italy (Reuters) - A man was shot dead in broad daylight as he strolled along the main boulevard of this southern Italian city yesterday in the latest incident of mob violence that has swept the

area since the beginning of the year, Italian news agency Ansa reported. Domenico Zippo's murder brings the death toll in the crime-ridden areas of Caserta and nearby Naples to 89 in the last six months.

About 500 troops have been deployed in and around Naples over the past week to help quell violence that has erupted as rival clans of the Camorra, the Naples Mafia, have waged street battles.

NYC police rescue Mexican workers from 'virtual slavery'

By BLAINE HARDEN

NEW YORK - Scores of deaf Mexicans who were being forced to work in conditions that Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani described as "virtual slavery" were rescued by police on Saturday from two small, squalid apartments in the borough of Queens.

Four of the Mexicans walked into a police station in Queens at 5 a.m. and managed to communicate that they were being forced to work for little or no pay. Giuliani said some of deaf immigrants alleged that they had been subject to physical and sexual abuse.

Police later found that 52 deaf adults - along with 10 children, some of whom could speak Spanish and English - were living in top-floor apartments in two separate duplex buildings in the Queens neighborhood of Corona. Each apartment would normally house about seven people.

The Mexicans told authorities they had been working in the streets and subways selling tiny

baseball bats that say "I am deaf" and turning the money over to a man they called "the boss," who had brought them to New York from Mexico and held their identity documents.

"It appears that at least one man and possibly more were holding a number of people in bondage, in virtual slavery, bringing them over from Mexico and then requiring them to work and taking their wages from them," Giuliani said.

Police were holding Alfredo Paoletti, 37, for questioning, but as of Saturday evening had not charged him. A spokesman for the Immigration and Naturalization Service said it was investigating when and how the Mexicans had come to New York.

"The people are brought in by Alfredo. He gets documents for them. He has a connection for them at the airport in Mexico City, and he brings them in through Newark. That is the best information that we have," Giuliani said in an interview Saturday night.

The mayor, who spoke to the

immigrants through translators, said some of them apparently have lived in the US for several years.

"Half of them knew who I was. That should tell you they have been in the city for awhile," Giuliani said.

In both apartments where the immigrants were living the only furniture was mattresses, according to police spokesman Sgt. Denis Doohan.

"Basically they were living in squalor," he said. "They were able to communicate to us that they were subject to some physical abuse. One woman had a black eye. They told us that [the man who brought them to the US] was making physical threats to them to give him all their money."

The 10 children in the apartments were turned over to the city's child welfare agency. Police said they all appeared to be in good health. The 52 adults, including 22 men and 30 women, four of whom are pregnant, will be taken into temporary custody by New

York City authorities. They remained at a police station in Corona late Saturday.

Giuliani said that because of barriers imposed by the immigrants' deafness and their fear of authorities, "it is going to take two or three days to sort out" whether they are in the country legally.

Corona is one of dozens of neighborhoods in Queens and Brooklyn that have been radically transformed by the flood of immigrants into New York City in the 1990s. That influx - more than 113,000 a year since 1990 - has allowed New York to escape the depopulation that has hit cities such as Detroit, Baltimore, and Washington.

The immigrants, by and large, have been a major shot in the arm for the economy and cultural vibrancy of the city. As compared to native-born New Yorkers, recent immigrants are less likely to use social services, more likely to have jobs, and more likely to own business, according to city figures. (Washington Post)

France honors 13,152 Jewish victims of Nazi roundup in 1942

By DEBORAH SEWARD

PARIS (AP) - France paid tribute yesterday to the memory of 13,152 Jews who were rounded up in 1942 and sent to Nazi death camps in one of the worst incidents of French wartime collaboration.

At a ceremony marking the 55th anniversary of the Vel d'Hiv roundup, Prime Minister Lionel Jospin reminded his countrymen that the French bore responsibility for the mass arrest.

"This roundup was decided, planned and carried out by the French. Politicians, administrators, police and gendarmes took part. Not one German soldier was

needed to accomplish this hideous crime," Jospin said.

Jospin was the latest French leader to pay homage to the victims of the roundup at the Velodrome d'Hiver, a cycling stadium in western Paris where the Jews were detained on July 16-17, 1942 before being deported to Nazi death camps.

Former president Francois Mitterrand dedicated a memorial three years ago at the Vel d'Hiv site, which was razed in 1959, and made the anniversary a day of national commemoration.

In all, about 75,000 Jews were deported from France to Nazi concentration camps during World

War II. Only 2,500 survived.

"This crime must leave its mark on our collective conscience," said Jospin in his somber address, which was carried live on television.

At dawn on July 16, 1942, French police began banging on doors throughout Paris, dragging men, women and children from their homes and taking them by bus to the cycling stadium.

The families were imprisoned for three days without food or water, then deported by train eastward to Auschwitz, where most of them perished.

The number of Jews arrested exceeded the expectations of the Nazi occupiers, whom French officials hoped to appease and gain more autonomy for the Vichy regime.

France has yet to come completely to terms with the extent of the wartime collaboration with the Nazis, although officials in recent years have shown greater willing-

ness to acknowledge this dark chapter of the country's history.

In October, Maurice Papon, the former Vichy police chief in the Bordeaux region, will go on trial for his role in the arrest and deportation of 1,690 French Jews to Nazi concentration camps.

"The duty of memory requires that those on whom weighs a suspicion of responsibility for crimes that took place be judged," Jospin said.

Jospin also pledged that his government would make sure a commission investigating what happened to Jewish property confiscated during World War II brought all the facts to light.

In his speech, Jospin also promised to facilitate access to French archives for historians researching the Holocaust.

Finally, Jospin said his government would support the construction of a memorial to Jewish martyrs of World War II as well as a Holocaust Museum.

Real Estate & Investments in Israel 1997

Just before Rosh Hashana
The Jerusalem Post
will publish special marketing and advertising
supplements, devoted to real estate and
investments in Israel.
The supplements will be published in the
International Edition
of September 8, 15 & 22
and in the daily paper on
October 1, erev Rosh Hashana
For more information and to advertise in
these supplements, please contact:
Udi Bash 03-6390333 Fax: 03-6390277

Bosnian Serbs expel president from party

PALE, Bosnia - Bosnian Serb hardliners, waging a battle for power, have expelled President Biljana Plavsic from their ruling party and demanded she step down from office, a party official said yesterday.

"The executive committee at yesterday's session unanimously decided to expel Biljana Plavsic from the SDS and we repeated our appeal to transfer her authorities to Vice-President Dragoljub Mirjanic," Vlado Vertes, secretary-

general of the party, told reporters.

The ultra-nationalist Serb Democratic Party (SDS), which rules Bosnia's Serb entity, is run by hardliners loyal to former president and indicted war criminal Radovan Karadzic.

The vote to kick Plavsic out of the party followed her outspoken attacks on Karadzic at rallies and her comments in an interview threatening to arrest Karadzic and his allies for rampant corruption.

MUNICIPALITY OF TEL AVIV-YAFO
Public Tender No. 373/97

For the lease of a plot for building a high-tech, non polluting, industrial building zoned for offices, services of various types, and for commerce, to be constructed above an underground parking lot, part of which will be used by the public. The plot is located in Tel Aviv, between Derech Yigal Allon and the Ayalon Highway.

The Municipality of Tel Aviv-Yafo invites bids for the lease of a plot for building a high-tech, non polluting, industrial building zoned for offices, services of various types, and for commerce, to be constructed above an underground parking lot, part of which will be used by the public. The plot is located in Tel Aviv, between Derech Yigal Allon and the Ayalon Highway.

Further details and the tender documents, which include the tender conditions and the tender envelope, are available for the sum of NIS 2,000 (non-refundable) at the offices of the Ezra Ubizaron Company, 105 Derech Petah Tikva, Tel Aviv. Tel. 03-691-0666, Sunday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Bids are to be submitted in two identical copies (on the form enclosed in Appendix C of the tender conditions), together with the tender documents signed by the bidder, in a sealed envelope bearing the tender number and name and to be sent by registered mail or delivered by hand to: Tel Aviv-Yafo Municipality, Municipal Postal Services, 12th floor, room 1228, Yitzhak Rabin Square, Tel Aviv, by October 14, 1997 at 3 p.m.

Bids must include a guarantee, as specified in the tender conditions, documents attesting to the bidder's ability to carry out the project, and confirmation from the tax authorities, tax advisor, or an accountant, that the bidder keeps account books as required by law.

The Municipality does not undertake to accept the highest, or any bid.

Roni Milo
Mayor of Tel Aviv-Yafo

MOVIE REVIEW

Howard Stern's vulgar truths

By ADINA HOFFMAN

Based on the autobiography of the rude, crude New York radio personality, Howard Stern, *Private Parts* is one of the more entertaining bits of celebrity self-aggrandizement to surface in a long time. Actually, the movie — which stars Stern as himself — works by means of a clever blend of self-love and self-mockery ("I grow on you like a fungus," the hero announces proudly at one point, a maniacal smirk tugging at his lips), as it also further develops the tricky *trompe-l'oeil* technique that he has perfected on his WNBC radio show.

PRIVATE PARTS

Directed by Betty Thomas. Screenplay by Len Blum and Michael Kalesniko. Based on the book by Howard Stern. Hebrew title: *Pratin*. 110 minutes. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.

With Howard Stern, Robin Quivers, Mary McCormack.



Professional loud mouth: To disc jockey Howard Stern, controversial subjects such as death, sex and race relations are all fair game.

To hear Stern tell it, no subject — sex, death, race relations, God, his wife's miscarriage, flatulence — is off limits for on-air discussion. His improvised banter appears to be brutally honest and totally intimate, and his massive public appeal is based on the fact that his honesty knows no bounds. He just blurts the dirty truths that we all think but are too bashful or repressed to say out loud.

While such total frankness is a fine claim to fame, it is, of course, not true. Stern's straight-talking, wise-cracking radio persona is just that — a persona. And if there's one thing his inspired performance in *Private Parts* makes clear it's that he is, above all, a fantastic actor, a man who has cast himself in the part of the soul-baring vulgarian and thoroughly mastered the role — or roles, since his on-screen character must be a slightly larger-than-life variation on his already large personality. (With his lanky frame, dark flowing locks, girlish mouth and big pointy beak of a

nose, Stern even looks like a caricature of himself.) To see the film as a documentary peek inside Stern's mind and life would be over-literal and a mistake; much of the fun here comes from wondering just where the "real" Howard Stern stops and the "make-believe" Howard Stern begins.

Wherever one draws the line, though, both in life and *Private Parts*, directed by Betty Thomas from a script by Len Blum and Michael Kalesniko, Stern seems a complex blend of contradictory characters. At one and the same time, he's a compulsively immature 1 & a-obsessed geek, a savvy publicity hound, a loving husband and father, a great spontaneous talker, and a calculating heir to the Lenny Bruce tradition of emphatically blunt stand-up comedy (he

has obviously also absorbed the gleeful sound of George Carlin spewing long chains of obscenities).

Narrating his life story in his slightly pinched, Alan Alda-esque voice and a flashback form that calls to mind certain moments in *Annie Hall*, Stern offers up a good-natured, hyperbolic view of his early childhood and adolescence. These rocky times, he says, were punctuated by the performance of X-rated puppet shows and lots of pot-smoking on the sly. His father, a radio programmer, never stopped telling him to shut up — an auspicious, if apocryphal start to Stern's celebrated career as professional loud mouth.

From the point when Stern assumes the role of his college-age self and meets his pretty bride-to-

be, Alison (Mary McCormack), the film follows a conventional (albeit ironic) bio-pic format. Using a combination of actors and media figures playing themselves (Stern's delightful radio partner, Robin Quivers, appears as "Robin Quivers"), the movie traces his development from hopelessly inept small-town DJ in the chipper news-weather-traffic-report mode, to budding free-thinker ("I've gotta get intimate," it dawns on him, "I've gotta go all the way..."), to almighty King of the Media, a man whose nerve, bad taste, and popularity increase in direct, elephantine proportion to one another, much to the chagrin of the stuffy network bosses who try every means possible to make Stern behave and act as a broadcaster "should." Naturally, he

refuses, ratings soar, and soon he's starring in a movie about his own life.

Aside from Stern's own very funny bearing, the film's humor comes from its mock-epic outline. Movies that rely on this triumphal if-they-could-see-me-now format tend to focus on the lives of Great Men — historical figures, tortured artists, war heroes, inventors of major machines. Stern's earth-shattering contributions to humankind, meanwhile, include innovations like "Fart Man" and a live broadcast of a porn star swallowing a 13-inch kielbasa sausage. In the end Stern's is a real American success story (free speech never had such a vital advocate). But it's a success story in the inside-out sense, a tribute to a super-anthemo.

A 'Dybbuk' in Chicago

By F.M. DALESSIO

Composer Shulamit Ran says she considers music "the language of passion and desire." The text she chose for her first opera, *Between Two Worlds*, certainly has plenty of both.

Between Two Worlds is new to the opera stage, but some audience members at its world premiere at Chicago's DePaul Merle Reskin Theater likely recognized its plot outline as *The Dybbuk*, probably the most frequently performed drama of the Yiddish theater.

Set in the vanished world of Eastern European Hassidim, the tale tells of the love between Khonnon, a yeshiva student, and Leya, the daughter of a local merchant. The two were pledged to each other before birth, but Leya's father forgets that pledge when a wealthier prospective bridegroom becomes available. When learns of Leya's betrothal to another, he dies in an ecstatic fit.

He returns as a dybbuk — the disembodied spirit of one who died with an uncompleted life — and enters Leya's body on her wedding day, speaking through her in a male voice. A rabbi exorcises the dybbuk from Leya's body, but Khonnon reappears to her in spirit form. Their souls merge and they depart to dwell in the shadow world between life and death.

Ran, 47, winner of the 1991 Pulitzer Prize for composition, saw a Habimah production of *The Dybbuk* when she was a girl in her native Israel. "It's part of my heritage, and it remains with me to this day in all its blood-curdling power,"

she said. The new composer-in-residence at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Ran worked on *Between Two Worlds* for about three years. She and librettist Charles Kondek added the innovation of making the world of disembodied spirits visible to the audience as a supernatural chorus. Pointing to some black-and-white striped costumes she explained, "These are for the disembodied spirits. We'll have two choruses, the living and the departed, and Leya and Khonnon will move to a sort of limbo in between."

Ran has also written the conflict between worlds into her music. "In the music of the village there are certain elements of klezmer." But I use a different language for the music of the synagogue and another for the world of the dybbuk and the spirits.

Fascinated by the power of opera to convey diverse narrative and emotional lines simultaneously, she includes a sextet where a flirtatious girl sings to a yeshiva student about an innocent kiss and the synagogue caretaker invites an old woman to kiss the Torah, while Khonnon and Leya sing of a kiss in the erotic words of the Song of Songs. "An innocent kiss, a holy kiss, and a passionate kiss. Three subjects and six singers, and they all revolve around a kiss."

"There have been 12 *Dybbuk* operas that I know of, but none of them have entered the general repertory," she said. "George Gershwin [apparently] wanted to write a *Dybbuk* opera but dropped the idea when he found out that someone else had the rights. He wrote *Porgy and Bess* instead." (AP)

Dance from Chicago

By HELEN KAYE

Anytime I hear Billie Holiday sing, it's a romance I think of, of finding love and losing it," says award-winning choreographer and former dancer Randy Duncan. Just the same, there's a "but" in his voice, and it's because "she wasn't just singing the blues, she was the blues. You hear the pain of her life."

Duncan has made *Gardenias for Billie* set to six of her songs, and he's teaching it to the Bat Dor dancers for a world premiere at the Noga Theater in Jaffa tomorrow.

"She's drunk with love," he tells one of the dancers for "Fine and Mellow," one of the songs in the 20-minute work. "All your energy goes out to this one man. You're so open, you're almost sloppy, as though you're saying 'here I am.'"

Forget the technique, he's telling them, "get where you want to go. Movement, he tells his students, "comes from the inside out, not from the outside in. Dance is about learning to use your body and mean it so that the dance speaks."

This is Duncan's sixth visit in nine years. In addition to making a dance for the company, he's conducting the Bat Dor summer workshop for the second year in a row. He first came with the Chicago-based Joseph Holmes Dance Theater (JHDT) when he was its artistic director and in-house choreographer. He was skinny then, charming, and moved with a dancer's lithe grace. He's heavier now and doesn't dance anymore, and JHDT folded in 1994, but



Moved by Billie Holiday: Choreographer Randy Duncan

Duncan still moves with that same easy fluidity and he's still charming.

Duncan, who lives in Chicago, has been a freelancer since he resigned from the company in 1993. He's given three of his dances to the Joffrey Ballet, including *Copland Motets* and *Initiation* which he originally made for JHDT, and is working on a new one called *Affection*. He teaches at a local arts high school and does the occasional semester at a university, but this is the first time he's been invited to choreograph for a company outside the US.

Even nine years ago he called himself an audience choreographer who didn't like "to make introverted dances that leave the audience out." That hasn't changed either.

Masters for Galilee

By MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

First and foremost of this summer's classical music festivals is the Kfar Blum Chamber Music Festival, or, as it is officially known, The Kol Yisrael Upper Galilee Music Days. Inaugurated by Idith Zvi more than a decade ago, this festival used to be the hottest ticket around, with tickets disappearing within a few hours of being made available to the general public. Whilst tickets for the festival no longer sell out immediately, they are nevertheless still in huge demand. And this year's festival looks like being one of the best ever.



A new work by Shlomo Gronich is one of the features of the Kfar Blum festival.

In Zvi's last days the festival's program and performers lost some of their sparkle and luster. Last year Avi Hanani, the director of the Voice of Music radio network, which broadcasts concerts live and is a significant partner in the event, took over the festival helm. His first festival was somewhat disappointing, but there are signs that there is a change for the better this year.

The major change, and one that many people consider long overdue, concerns the inclusion of Israeli works in the program. Clearly, an event sponsored by our government should not neglect local composers, but this is what Zvi ended up doing.

This year Hanani has commissioned new works by leading young Israeli composers Oded Zehavi, Gil Shohat, Tzohar Dori, Trippi Fleisher, Ranko Richtman, Shlomo Gronich and Yosef Brandashvili. He feels proud of this innovation and attributes it to the additional time available to him for planning the festival. Works by Arik Shapira, Oren Schwartz and Zvi Avni will also be performed, some of them twice during the festival.

In true innovative style, the festival's opening concert will premiere two Israeli works. Music lovers who are afraid of contemporary music should not let this worry them. The program also features works by Tchaikovsky, Mendelssohn, Shostakovich, Schubert and Mozart.

As for the performers, they include most of the who's who of the local classical music scene as well as some visitors from abroad. Several young local musicians on the path to stardom, like the Young Jerusalem String Quartet, have also been invited.

Anyone who has ever visited Kfar Blum during festival time must surely be aware of the pure magic of the place. The landscape is gorgeous, the food sumptuous

and the aura soothing yet electrifying. With 16 classical concerts between July 26 and August 2, and first-rate performers from around the globe, who could ask for anything more?

Another important event taking place in Kfar Blum this summer is the Tel Hai Summer International Piano Masterclasses (July 29-August 12). These usually take place at Tel Hai, but have been relocated to Kfar Blum this year and will coincide with the festival. Close to 50 pianists from all over the world (including about 20 locals) will participate in these masterclasses, whose teachers include visitors Jose Ribera, Victor Rosenbaum, Sontraud Speidel and Israelis Michael Boguslavsky, Victor Derivanko, Emanuel Krasovsky, Pinna Salzman, Arie Vardi and Yehli Wagnman.

But the major addition to the event is Georgian-born pianist Alexander Korsantiya, the winner

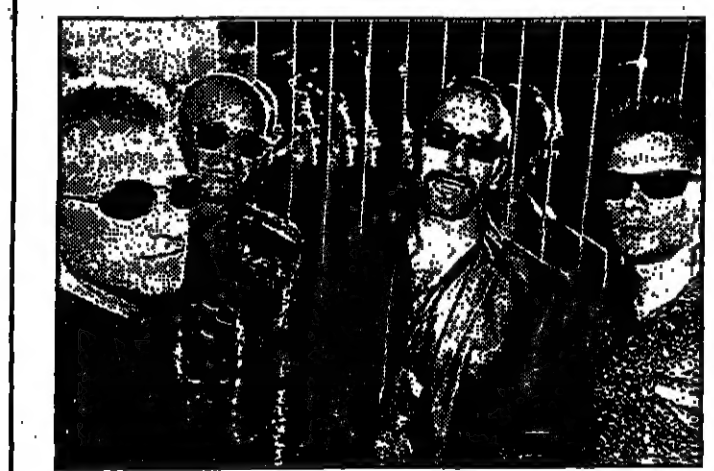
of the recent Artur Schnabel Master Piano Competition in Tel Aviv. As a result, the Kfar Blum festival will also be able to feature Korsantiya on one of its programs.

"We will still remain independent, but being in Kfar Blum is quite exciting," says masterclasses general director Marina Bondarenko. "Some of our teachers will play in the festival. Korsantiya was very excited about the project and will be with us all the time." While students learn throughout the day, the masterclasses also extend into the evening, with concerts by students and teachers in Kfar Blum and the surrounding kibbutzim.

While budding musicians study piano in Kfar Blum, violinists make Kibbutz Eilon in Western Galilee their summer home. Here Keshet Eilon, with music director Yitzhak Rashkovsky and Annie Schnarch, provides the young stars of the future with a serene kibbutz setting where they can hone their craft and enjoy a variety of extracurricular activities including the secrets of violin making and archery.

Among the teachers at Eilon are violinist extraordinaire Shlomo Mintz, who has been coming to Eilon regularly for the past few years, Pavel Kogan and Edward Grach from Russia, Lewis Kaplan from the US, Rudolph Werthen from Belgium, Boris Kuschnir from Austria and many others including Israeli David Chen. And again, music lovers in the area will be able to enjoy evening concerts in Eilon and the surrounding areas by students and teachers alike.

All in all, both the Eilon and the Tel Hai masterclasses provide unique learning opportunities for young musicians as well as some first-rate concerts for local residents and for those spending their summers in Galilee.



You too can see U2

Tickets for U2's long-awaited Israeli debut go on sale tomorrow night in a 64-hour nonstop marathon.

The tickets for the concert, slated for September 30 in Ramat Gan Stadium, will be sold in Jerusalem at Klaim and Binot agencies, in Tel Aviv at Kastel, and in Haifa at Gerber. The stores will open their doors at 10 p.m. and continue selling tickets nonstop until Friday afternoon, or until they sell out.

According to promoter Zeev Isaac, the stadium will be divided into five sections with varied prices for each section.

Meanwhile abroad, tickets for the band's August 30 show at Dublin's Lansdowne Road sold out in just 40 minutes.

U2's first appearance in Johannesburg also opened to spectacular first-day sales, selling over 40,000 tickets.

According to *Daily Variety*, "With an average nightly gross of \$2.4 million, U2's PopMart tour [has taken] in more than \$49 million since its April kickoff. The tally [has] earned it the distinction of being the top [North American] tour for the first half of 1997."

David Brinn

Jazz in Eilat: The second decade

By HELEN KAYE

The big band is back in jazz, at least it is at the 11th Red Sea Jazz Festival at Eilat Port from August 25 to 28. From the US it's the 10-member Tower of Power, Juan Formell and Los Van Van from Cuba with 15 musicians, and 15 more from France — the National Jazz Orchestra. They're all playing everything from jazz standards to the latest sounds around, and mixing it to boot. Tickets are now on sale.

Other visitors include the James Moody and Jerry Bergonzi Quartets, blind singer Diane Schuur, the lady they call the Jazz Princess from the East, Azerbaijani Aziza Mustafah Zadeh, the Contemporary Bebop Quintet from Sweden, and the UK's jazz Oscar winner, Django Bates and the Human Chain.

Unsurprisingly, with our own multi-ethnic, multicultural weave, our own jazzpersons also do a lot of

crossover stuff like Yossi Fein and his X-Centrix that mixes jazz with African tribal music, or the Albert Beger Quartet that likes to improvise on classical, Jewish and contemporary music themes, or Steve Hornstein and Tarshish who like to wander from East to West and back again, or tpdancer Skip Cunningham appearing with local hoofers Avi Miller and Ofer Ben to a jazz trio creating the '20s sounds and ambience of The Hoofers Club.

A shortfall in the festival's NIS 3 million plus budget threatened some of the acts, "but we've made spending cuts where we can and added new corporate sponsors," said festival production manager Iris Dagan. Some NIS 400,000 has come from Pringle Chips, Cellcom and Barak 013 and the festival will go ahead as planned.

Naturally, there are still the usual after-concert jam-sessions around the pool at the Riviera Hotel, and who says you can't listen to jazz in the water?

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Negotiating without violence

The arrest of Col. Jihad Massimi under orders from Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat and the public statement by the United States that Israeli charges must be taken "with the highest degree of seriousness" indicates that Israel has solid evidence that the three Palestinian policemen it arrested last week were in fact about to carry out a terrorist attack. The peace process stands on the edge of a precipice; it will take a concerted effort by Palestinians and Israelis to pull back from the edge and step up to higher ground.

Israeli security officials have not directly accused Arafat of personal knowledge of the failed terrorist attack, but they reportedly have proof that Col. Ghazi Jabali, commander of the West Bank and Gaza police force, dispatched the police on their mission with weapons that could not be traced to the Palestinian Police, guns whose mere possession is a violation of the Oslo agreement.

Though much has changed since the days in which the PLO and Israel met only at the point of a gun, one thing evidently remains the same: The Palestinians are convinced that violence is the key to achieving their diplomatic aims.

Based upon the record until now, it would be hard to argue with the logic of this Palestinian perception. After all, Israel came to recognize the "legitimate political rights" of the Palestinians in general, and the leadership of the PLO in particular, following decades of terrorism directed against Israel. Even in the post-handshake era of Oslo, the Palestinians have noted that Netanyahu only called Arafat his partner, withdrew from Hebron, and locked himself into Oslo's further redeployments after the violence surrounding the opening of the Western Wall Tunnel last September.

Neither side, it seems, is willing to make a clean break from the paradigm in which violence and the peace process move together, hand in hand.

Though Netanyahu has worked hard to reverse the impression that the peace process could continue despite high levels of violence, his actions have sent mixed signals.

On the one hand, Netanyahu heads a coalition that would not be unhappy about shutting down the Oslo process if Palestinian violence provided sufficient cause. On the other, there is the example of Netanyahu's response to the September violence, which resulted in an acceleration of the process.

Arafat seems to be mirroring the schizophrenic Israeli response to Palestinian violence with his own mixed approach. He has evidently come to the conclusion that limited violence, with an implied threat of more serious violence, still serves his negotiating interests, but that car-

rying out that threat too blatantly now could be costly to him.

Given this situation, Israel has two options at its disposal to finally remove Palestinian violence from the negotiating table: to bring its policies in line with its "zero tolerance" rhetoric regarding violence, and to discredit the "politics of weakness" that are the backbone of the justification for violence. Neither option is particularly feasible.

All the parties involved realize that, regardless of the wishes of the coalition's right wing, Israel will not overtly pull out of the peace process in response to threats and low-level violence, even though they are violations of the Oslo accords. Unfortunately, the Palestinians have succeeded in training both Israel and the US not to expect them to comply with signed agreements, except in the broadest of terms. If Israel were really to insist on the "reciprocity" that we heard so much about at first and now do not hear about at all, then Israel would be accused of scuttling the peace process.

Nor can Israel combat the politics of weakness that Arafat employs so skillfully, in which the greater the threat of violence, the more it is attributed to Arafat's weakness, simultaneously absolving him of the responsibility for combating violence and increasing the pressure on Israel to "strengthen" Arafat.

No amount of complaining will change the fact that Israel is seen as the older sibling who is expected to be more flexible for the sake of peace and quiet, even if justice – or the Oslo accords – are not completely served.

The fact that in the current situation the Palestinians can effectively get away with a certain amount of violence, however, does not mean that it is smart for them to do so in the long run. The Palestinian disregard for numerous commitments made just six months ago in the Hebron accord, including the commitment to disband the terrorist infrastructure of rejectionist elements, has a cumulative effect that will increase Israeli resistance to taking risks in final status talks.

But neither should the Netanyahu government believe that the extended stall in the peace process is in its interest. If and when a package deal is reached that restarts the process, Netanyahu should be on the lookout for ways to demonstrate to the Palestinians that Israel will be more forthcoming in the context of enhanced security cooperation than in the current climate of barely-suppressed violence. In the long run, Israelis have an interest in convincing Palestinians that combating violence pays, while Palestinians have an interest in convincing Israelis that they are capable of negotiating without violence.

Yelling & weeping

SUSAN HATTIS ROLEF

In an interview a while back, millionairess Galia Albin recalled the occasion she returned to her home in Kfar Shmaryahu from a family vacation to discover that her Filipino maid had run off with \$10,000 worth of clothes and jewelry.

The standard Israeli comment on this probably was that Albin should have followed her mother's advice and confiscated the

knowledge, there are no sick people or invalids in the Netanyahu household.

Both these cases disturb me, for the reason that I know how difficult it is for those who really need the services of a Filipino (or other) foreign worker – for the reasons specified above – to obtain a permit.

Not long ago I engaged in a five-month battle for a permit allowing me to hire a Filipino caregiver for my disabled mother in Haifa.

At first the Employment Service turned me down point-blank, saying that since I had been employing Israeli caregivers at the time I submitted my request, I wasn't entitled to a foreign worker.

My argument, that I could no longer afford to employ Israelis – I was paying close to NIS12,000 per month for round-the-clock help, excluding other living expenses and a cleaning woman, since Israeli caregivers don't do housework – made no impression on the Employment Service officials.

I finally got my Filipino caregiver, but not without a lot of yelling and weeping, and not without applying all the "Vitamin P" I could muster, including a close aide of the Labor minister, three government ministers, the speaker of the Knesset and the Labor Party secretary-general.

I could have got an illegal Filipina in two days.

So far not one member of the coalition has uttered a peep about the Netanyahu's employing yet another non-Jewish foreigner, who must speak fluent English but need not know any Hebrew, to help raise their children.

Where is Yisrael Ba'Aliya, which put up such a fight over the appointment of an ambassador to Moscow? Aren't there any suit-

Getting a legal foreign worker is near-impossible. An illegal one? That's another story

maid's passport the moment the woman set foot in her home.

I wonder, however, how many Israelis asked how on earth Albin had got permission to employ a Filipino maid in the first place – and if her maid was an "illegal," then how come she felt safe telling the media?

According to the regulations of the Labor Ministry's Employment Service, only "sick people and invalids, incapable of functioning alone or looking after themselves, who require regular assistance for more than 14 hours a day" are entitled to employ a foreign worker in their household.

There is another way to get a permit to employ a foreign worker: if the director-general of the employment service approves the request personally.

I don't know whether Albin received such approval (somehow I doubt it), but press reports say another family – the Netanyahu's – did recently receive a permit to employ a Filipino nanny to take care of Avner and Yair Netanyahu, even though, to the best of my

Dry Bones



able, unemployed, English-speaking new immigrants from Russia who could take care of the two little princes? And where is Geshet, so concerned about social issues? Aren't there any suitable, unemployed, English-speaking Israelis of Moroccan origin?

And what about the National Religious Party, currently fighting for the appointment of some of its own men as religious judges? Aren't there any suitable, unemployed, English-speaking religious settlers who, besides wiping the young Netanyahu's noses, could nurture in them some love for the Land of Israel, for the language of the Bible and for the Jewish people?

And where is Shas, currently so busy keeping non-Orthodox converts out of the country and con-

taining the spread throughout society of undesirable yishuv influences? Last I heard, Shas was in charge of the Labor Ministry and the Employment Service...

As of this writing, the only politician to have raised any fuss about the Netanyahu's prospective nanny is Labor's Ofir Pines, who has used the issue to attack the prime minister.

While this is legitimate, the whole issue of foreign workers – the authorities' failure to control their entry into Israel and to deal with the very serious social problems their presence creates – is too serious to be used merely as a stick to beat the prime minister with. It needs immediate attention in and of itself.

The writer is a political scientist.

The only really logical step

AARON LERNER

When news broke last week about a squad of Palestinian police who were apparently ordered by Palestinian chief of police Brig. Gen. Ghazi Jabali to ambush Israeli cars, I hoped finally to see a departure from Israel's policy regarding Palestinian violence, a policy that has been termed "full gas, in neutral." I was disappointed.

It's not as if there wasn't enough reason before last week to call Yasser Arafat to account for what has become a farce.

For months, the Prime Minister's Office has been churning out lists of Palestinian Authority violations. Just this Sunday it released a 35-page report assessing Palestinian compliance (or rather noncompliance) with the Hebron accord. The picture isn't pretty.

According to the report, the PA paid youths to riot and attack IDF soldiers, and deployed 1,500 police (instead of the authorized 400) with illegal weapons in Hebron.

More than 150 members of Hamas and the extremist PFLP have been put in key positions in the Palestinian Police. The PA refuses to transfer terror suspects to Israel; some are even serving in the police.

The report states that "virtually none of the tens of thousands of weapons circulating [illegally] in the autonomous areas have been collected by the PA in the past six months."

Strong stuff. But to have any serious impact, these reports have to reach some kind of operative conclusion.

When I asked senior Netanyahu adviser David Bar-Ilan why his reports don't call for any specific

action, he conceded that they don't go beyond presenting the facts.

Is there any chance that the government will go beyond simply reporting Palestinian violations for the sake of the history books?

"I think that one thing, at least as of now, that is taken seriously is

with the Oslo accords. And that includes extraditing terrorists."

When I asked Landau if insisting on extradition was a problem – since many people think it would finish Oslo off entirely – he replied: "Excusing the PA from honoring its obligation to extradite terrorists is a formula for

It's time for Netanyahu to go beyond recording Palestinian violations and issuing general calls for compliance

the participation of Palestinian Police in terrorist acts," Bar-Ilan replied. As if to prove his point, Arafat has ordered the arrest of Col. Jihad Massimi for his involvement in the ring.

But Massimi was apparently only himself carrying out orders. And with the chief of police issuing the orders, it's pretty far-fetched to believe that Arafat didn't know about it.

"If Arafat gave the order, then the whole peace process will have to come under examination," Bar-Ilan warned sternly. "Even if it turned out that Arafat didn't know about it, this would not be much comfort. This would show a serious lack of control. Imagine if the PM didn't know what [Minister of Internal Security] Kahalani was doing."

LIKUD MK Uzi Landau, who chairs the Knesset Foreign and Security Affairs Committee, thinks it's time to draw a line. To this end, he is calling on Netanyahu to set a 90-day deadline for Palestinian compliance

making the entire agreement irrelevant."

Agreed. But is Arafat able to pull off compliance, even if he wants to? Isn't Hamas strengthening its hold on the Palestinian street?

That's not what Palestinian pollsters are finding. Last week, the Jerusalem Media and Communication Centre released its early July poll of Palestinians. The poll found dissatisfaction with Hamas and opposition parties growing even more than dissatisfaction with Arafat and the PA.

A similar poll by The Center for Palestine Research and Studies last month found that support for Hamas was only 8 percent, and for Islamic Jihad a mere 2.1 percent.

Well, can Arafat handle opposition within Fatah itself? After all, he is chairman of Fatah, but his orders must be authorized by the Central Committee.

Has it, for example, ever happened that Arafat wanted to give an instruction to Fatah, but could-

n't push it through the Central Committee?

"No," Hisham Abdel Raziq, who serves as a Fatah representative from Jabalya in the Palestinian Legislative Council assured me. "Even when Arafat [presented] the plan of Oslo for approval it went through."

What, finally, if Arafat really can't meet his Oslo obligations for some other reason?

Two-thirds of Palestinians replying to the JMCC poll said they were "optimistic about the future." So they must not be convinced that Netanyahu is serious about "Allon-Plus."

Conclusion: If Arafat can't control his people while he has over 30,000 armed "police" packing who knows how much weaponry, and while the Palestinians are still banking on Jerusalem as their capital, he surely won't be able to control them when the day of reckoning comes.

There are those on the Left who see Oslo as nothing more than a convenient cover for unilateral withdrawal. But they are in the minority. Most Israelis – and, for that matter, the US Congress – expect more than that. They expect a durable peace in the region.

It's time for Netanyahu to take the logical step and go beyond simply recording Palestinian violations and issuing general calls for compliance.

He owes it to Israel, and to future generations, to make it very clear to the Palestinians that their violations will have serious consequences on the ground.

The writer directs IMRA (Independent Media Review & Analysis).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CORAL BEACH RESERVE

Sir, – We were very sorry to read about Mrs. Weinberger's unfortunate experience in the Coral Beach Reserve (Letters, July 8).

Some of the beaches along the coast of Eilat were designated as public swimming beaches and as so, they have a lifeguard on duty during the day. Other beaches are not designated for recreational swimming and have signs warning the public about it. The Coral Beach Reserve is one of these.

The Nature Reserves Authority invested much effort and money for the safety and comfort of the visitors at the reserve by building bridges over the reef and installing warning signs. However this beach is not a regular swimming beach and is intended for divers and snorkelers who come to watch the beautiful coral reefs.

I was surprised to read that a current had pulled Mrs. Weinberger out, away from the shore. Currents in Eilat are long-shore currents, very slow and only

under the surface. The only force acting on swimmers on the surface is the light wind that blows diagonally into the shore. I was also surprised to read that she was swimming 100 meters away in 10 meters of water in the first place, since the coral observing area is right next to the reef, in three meters of water at most. At the distance and depth she described, there is nothing to see, and more important, the glass-bottomed boats travel at that distance and could run swimmers over.

In all the years that I have worked in the reserve and with all the hundreds of thousands of visitors, there has never been case of drowning, and I hope we will keep a clean record in the future too.

NOAM MESHI,
Director,
Coral Beach Reserve,
Nature Reserves Authority
Jerusalem.

PLAIN HATRED

Sir, – In paragraph one of the story "Beduin held for Wadi Kelt murders" (June 27), Ahmed Ali Ka'abneh is reported to have said he did it "because he hated Jews." What's confusing about that? And how does General Uzi Dayan translate that base visceral animosity into: "the murders were carried out for nationalistic motives?"

In hatred, and simply because they were Jews, Hagit Zavitzy and Liat Kastiel were tragically slaughtered... Not a new plot, not even a new setting. Why clothe the naked hatred that propelled a murderer into such brutal, unprovoked action with the pseudo-respectability of political or philosophical motives? Hatred against Jews can and has repeatedly stood on its own, independent of time, place, logic and cogent explanation.

ELAINE SHLOMOVIC
Jerusalem.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

60 years ago: On July 21, 1937, The Palestine Post reported that the British House of Lords began a debate on Lord Peel's Royal Commission on Palestine. Lord Peel, Chairman of the Commission who is received with loud cheers, defended his findings.

Marconi, inventor of wireless, died in Rome.

50 years ago: On July 21, 1947, The Palestine Post reported that there was still no news about the ultimate destination of the three "floating cages," British deportation ships carrying the Exodus 1947 4,500 "illegal" immigrants, although it became obvious that they were not, as they were promised, in order to facilitate their deportation, to be taken to Cyprus. Machine-gun fire shook Jerusalem. An armored car was blown up at the corner of

Ussishkin and Bezalel streets. A British constable was wounded near Mahaneh Yehuda, while a British soldier was killed near Ra'anana.

Netanya protested collective punishment as "Operation Tiger," the martial law imposed on the area, entered its sixth day. The town was cut by barbed-wire entanglements while British soldiers carried on their search for their two Intelligence sergeants kidnapped as hostages by the Irgun Zvai Leumi.

25 years ago: On July 21, 1972, The Jerusalem Post reported that the Egyptian government explained that its action to end the massive Soviet military presence was meant as a move towards peace, an apparent shift from its previous unremitting calls for an "inevitable battle" against Israel. There were, how-

ever, intelligence reports that Soviet pilots were still in Egypt. Soviet Union's Venus 8 probe transmitted successfully from this planet.

15 years ago: On July 21, 1982, The Jerusalem Post reported that five Israeli soldiers were killed and six wounded in Lebanon, while Ariel Sharon, the defence minister, claimed that PLO camps are not a part of West Beirut.

Iran bombed Iraqi oil installations.

10 years ago: On July 21, 1987, The Jerusalem Post reported that the first two Kuwaiti tankers were refueled and hoisted US flags while US defence secretary Casper Weinberger warned Iran against any interference with oil traffic in the Persian Gulf.

Alexander Zvielli

This kind of soap opera we need

FRIMET ROTH

high cupboard and got one down. "I keep it here," she said, "out of the kids' reach because it makes such a mess."

Well, here we are, eight years later, and another one of my children has just completed her first

year of government-mandated kindergarten.

She encountered the same old communal cups and soapless bathtubs. Nothing had changed. Again, I presented the kindergarten teacher with a bar of soap, and never saw it in the bathroom. (By now, I know better than to enquire after its whereabouts.)

Let's start a trend – washing our hands. Who knows, it may catch on

according to the American Infectious Diseases News. The annual cost associated with the illness, they say, is \$200 million.

Recently one of my children asked for soap after using the toilet at a friend's house. The other girl said it was kept in her mother's closet and got her a bar.

"I'm going to scrub my hands like that too," she announced, impressed with the novelty. "But I better close the door, so no one sees me."

Naturally, Who wants to invite ridicule when one is doing some-

thing as odd as washing one's hands? Clearly, equipping our kindergarten and school bathrooms with soap would be only a first step toward stemming the tide of hepatitis.

Children, and adults, need to be educated about the importance of proper bathroom hygiene and how to practice it. For many, such information will be a revelation.

I have encountered extreme non-chalance regarding elementary hygiene even among doctors and nurses. Parents are notoriously loath to point out professionals' failings to the offenders – but when a nurse handled my ill daughter's soiled diaper and then took her finger to prick it for a glucose test, I couldn't contain myself and insisted she first remove her contaminated gloves.

Until proper hygiene becomes second nature, it is presumptuous of us to consider Israel a developed country.

A campaign to promote awareness of hygiene is long overdue. Let's launch it now.

The writer is a resident of Jerusalem.

Sunday, July 20, 1997
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Bad Guys

10 Most-Wanted List: Mirror to a Nation's Psyche

By DAVID JOHNSTON

THOUGH the 27-year-old man being hunted for the murder of Gianni Versace last week seems to be running circles around the authorities, the odds actually swung heavily against him last month when the Federal Bureau of Investigation elevated him to its list of "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives." In the 47 years since the F.B.I. began the list as a publicity device, 421 of the 449 people in the top 10 have been tracked down.

The fugitive, Andrew P. Cunanan, made the list on June 12 as the prime suspect in four killings before the murder of Mr. Versace, the Italian fashion designer gunned down point blank on Tuesday outside his villa in South Miami Beach. Since then, the F.B.I. wanted poster bearing Mr. Cunanan's likeness seems to have turned up everywhere, including on the Internet.

In a sense, Mr. Cunanan typifies the scores of fugitives wanted for brazenly violent crimes who have always occupied a place on the most-wanted list. But the list offers more penetrating insights into the country's shifting preoccupation with crime than fugitives like Mr. Cunanan would suggest.

More than a catalogue of rogues, the most-wanted list reflects the F.B.I.'s effort to connect with changing phobias of crime rolling the American psyche. Thus the list was populated with bank robbers in the 1950's, political radicals in the 1960's and 70's and drug lords in the 1980's. Now foreign terrorists are often on the list.

Publicity

Placing a fugitive on the list announces the F.B.I.'s sense of urgency about a case and, as Mr. Cunanan's case demonstrates, generates considerable publicity about its resolve to capture a suspect. Internally, it means a more elaborate structure for the agency's investigation.

There are few objective criteria that qualify a suspect among the 4,000 to 6,000 Federal fugitives at large at any given time. Agents submit names of suspects to F.B.I. headquarters, where they are reviewed by superiors for approval. To make the list, a fugitive usually must be considered particularly dangerous in a case likely to attract enough publicity to generate leads and an arrest.

Each of the F.B.I.'s 56 field offices must keep an open file on every top-10 suspect, and each receives regular updates. Tips are forwarded expeditiously to headquarters and distributed to each office for investigation. F.B.I. agents say arresting a "Top Tenner" is a coveted trophy that can catapult a career upward.

But placing a fugitive on the list is not problem free. Heightened publicity often means numerous false leads, well intentioned and not-so, that must be run down at the cost of agents' time. The rampant public speculation last week about Mr. Cunanan suggested that more than a few crackpots were on the prowl.

In some notorious cases, the top-10 approach is of little value. For example, in the Unabom case, the identity of the suspect was unknown. As a result, Theodore Kaczynski was never on the list.

Odds are the suspect in Versace's murder will be caught. Most on the list are.

Nevertheless, the top-10 program has captured the public's imagination in so many cases — 131 fugitives have been captured as a result of tips from citizens — that the F.B.I. has actively tried to expand it. One update, posting the list on the Internet, which has so far led to the arrest of one fugitive, is the F.B.I.'s latest innovation linking one of its most durable public-relations tactics to the latest communications advances.

F.B.I. officials said the most-wanted list has been given a boost by television shows like "America's Most Wanted" or "Unsolved Mysteries" which have been responsible for the apprehension of more than a dozen top-10 suspects.

More technological change is coming. Soon, the still photographs now displayed on the Internet, which eclipsed the familiar black-and-white "wanted by the F.B.I." posters that hang in post offices, are themselves to be supplanted by computer systems that will let users

Continued on Page 4

WANTED BY THE FBI

UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID PROSECUTION -
MURDER SECOND DEGREE



Photo taken about 4/97



Date of Photo Unknown

ANDREW PHILLIP CUNANAN

Alias: Andrew Phillip DeSilva

DESCRIPTION

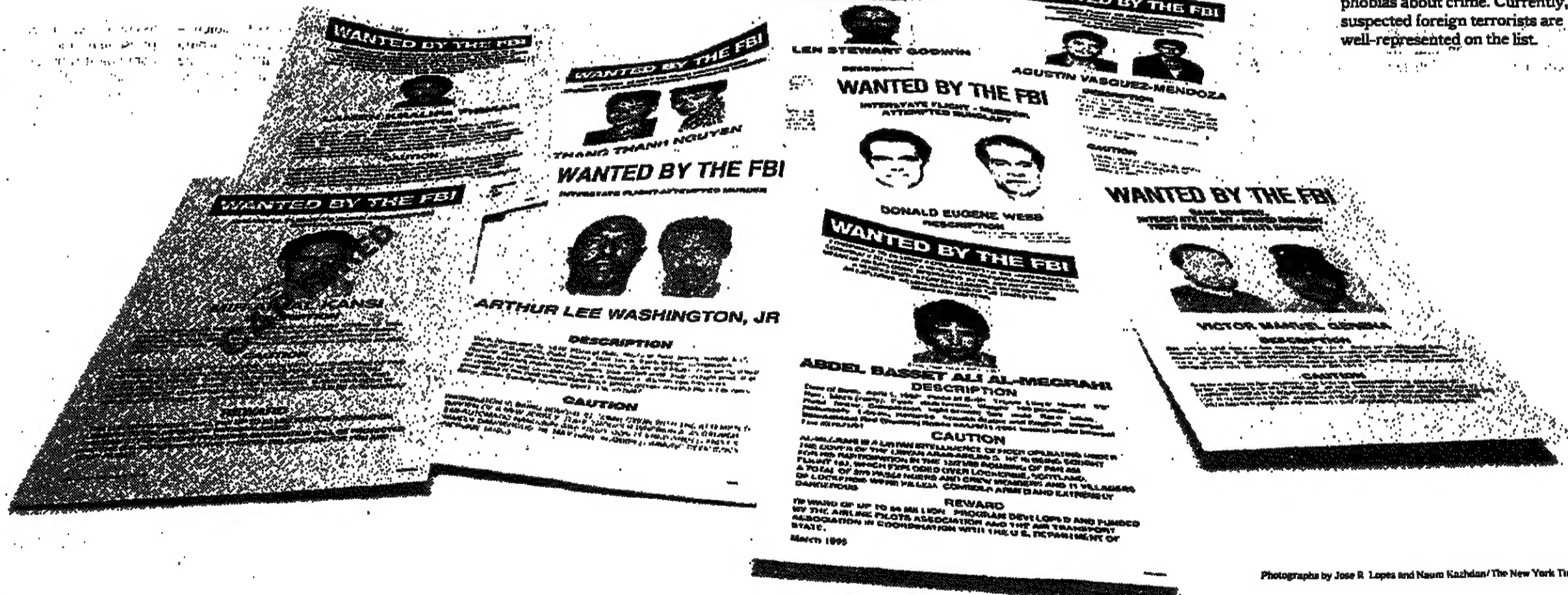
Date of Birth: August 31, 1969; Place of Birth: San Diego, California;
Race: White; Sex: Male; Height: 5' 9" - 5' 10"; Weight: 160 - 180 pounds;
Eyes: Brown; Hair: Dark Brown.
Remarks: Cunanan may wear prescription eyeglasses. He has been known to change his hairstyle and weight. He allegedly has ties to the gay community. He has portrayed himself as being wealthy.

CAUTION

CUNANAN IS BEING SOUGHT FOR AN APRIL, 1997 MURDER, WHICH OCCURRED IN CHICAGO COUNTY, MINNESOTA. ALSO, HE IS WANTED FOR QUESTIONING IN CONNECTION WITH ADDITIONAL MURDERS, WHICH OCCURRED IN CHICAGO COUNTY, MINNESOTA, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, AND PENNSYLVANIA. NEWSPAPER CLIPPING: CUNANAN MAY BE IN POSSESSION OF A HANKRIIP.

ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS

In determining its 10 most-wanted fugitives, the F.B.I. is sensitive to changing national phobias about crime. Currently, suspected foreign terrorists are well-represented on the list.



Photographs by Jose R. Lopez and Naum Kazhdan/The New York Times

Women and AIDS

The Better Half Got the Worse End

By SHERYL GAY STOLBERG

THE headlines last week trumpeted the good news: Deaths from AIDS had dropped 19 percent in the United States, continuing a decline first reported in May. The disease, it appears, has turned a corner in this country, changing from a death sentence into a chronic, treatable illness. As the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention declared, "We have entered a new era in the H.I.V. epidemic."

Yet in the fine print of the Government's statistics was a less cheerful tale. Between 1995 and 1996, deaths of women decreased by just 7 percent, as against 22 percent in men. And while the number of deaths dropped 28 percent for whites, the drop was 10 percent for blacks and 16 percent for Hispanic victims.

The turnaround, in other words, has primarily benefited white men.

The Problem Is Not Biology

"The good news is that death rates are starting to fall," said Dr. Helene Gayle, who directs the AIDS program at the disease control centers. "The bad news is that the people who are having the least benefit from prevention efforts and better therapies are women and minorities."

The trends are particularly troubling for women, who account for 20 percent of the

AIDS population and are joining the nation's roster of cases faster than men. Most infected women are also minorities, and most are poor and uneducated. And their chances for survival are worse than for men, for reasons that have nothing to do with biology.

When women get the same treatments as men, they fare just as well. But research has

found that even when women are properly diagnosed, they are less likely than men to be placed on antiviral therapy.

One study, published in 1994 in the Journal of the American Medical Association, tracked 768 women and 3,779 men for 15 months. It found that women were 33 percent more likely to die than men who were com-

parably ill when they entered the study. In women, twice as often as in men, death was the first sign that H.I.V. was progressing. Women, it was clear, were waiting longer than men to receive treatment.

"It's definitely a tale of two cities, two communities," said Dr. Kenneth H. Mayer, director of the Brown University AIDS program.

The reasons for this are complex and have as much to do with socioeconomic and culture as with gender. Homosexual men, who account for the majority of men with AIDS, are often politically active, with strong networks of support. But many women with AIDS, experts say, do not know even one other woman infected with H.I.V.

"Women, especially women of color, don't have the time or the money or the energy to be surfing the Internet to know what the new and improved latest treatment is," Dr. Mitchell said. "They tend overwhelmingly to be mothers. They don't have that leisure to make AIDS the only focus in their life."

The C.D.C. reports that while AIDS is now the third leading cause of death for American women aged 25 to 44, it is the leading cause of death for African-American women in that age group. In 1994, the centers reported that black women were almost 15 times more likely than white women to test positive for H.I.V.

Black women are also more likely to shy



Michelle Agins/The New York Times

Deborah Gordan, who has AIDS, takes her 20 pills, while Jordan, her grandson, waits.

Continued on Page 3

Germany's Heroes

They see nothing
(offensive).

By Alan
Cowell

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www.disinfo.com

What's really
going on up there.

By Amy
Harmon

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Peace Dividend?

Bosnia has more
hatred than ever.

By Chris Hedges

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The World

Bosnia's Peace Dividend: Hatred for Everyone



Last week Bosnian families examined the bodies of civilians killed by Serbs in 1992.

By CHRIS HEDGES

NSARAJEVO, Bosnia and Herzegovina NATIONALISM, far from being on the wane as one might expect following the end of the war in Bosnia, is far more entrenched and insidious than it was when the conflict started.

When the war began, nationalism clearly came from the top down. It was Slobodan Milosevic, the President of Serbia, and Franjo Tudjman, the President of Croatia, who beat the drums of nationalism. But now, after four years of heavy, daily propaganda, Serbs and Croats alike have finally absorbed the message that they were indeed abused and persecuted. And in a sense they are right.

The war has left people with a greater wellspring of hatred, a hatred that is much more concrete. Hundreds of thousands of Bosnians have lost homes, relatives and friends, ending the war as destitute refugees. While older Yugoslavs could remember the horrors of ethnic cleansing during World War II, they also had some 50 years of relatively peaceful coexistence. Now the grievances are new and tangible.

And with ethnic parties in power in all three enclaves in Bosnia — parties that have nothing more to offer than the bombastic cant of ethnic supremacy and solidarity — the leaders need the fire of racial hatred to rage.

Television stations in the Croat, Serb and Muslim enclaves frequently show gruesome footage of maimed bodies, decomposed corpses being lifted from mass graves and emotional interviews with victims. The

Nationalism came from the top. Now it has finally seeped down into the public's consciousness.

slights committed against the few minorities that remain in opposing enclaves are trumpeted in the party-controlled media. And indoctrination is more effective now that most ethnic communities have lost contact with one another.

It is little wonder, then, that some 19 months after the signing of the Dayton peace agreement, ethnic tensions show no sign of dissipating. What is slightly more surprising is that the people, who have no love for their leaders, have also turned against the peacekeepers.

Fear of Peacekeepers

Take, for example, the reaction to the recent NATO-led operation to capture two Bosnian-Serb war criminals. The operation left one Serb paramilitary leader dead and resulted in the deportation of another Serb to the international war crimes tribunal in The Hague. Bosnian Serb leaders responded by boycotting the joint institutions set up under the Dayton accord and by broadcasting, on state-controlled radio and television, news reports designed to spread fear.

The broadcasts suggested that not only



In 1992, during a prisoner exchange, a procession of Serbs from Mostar (left) passed a procession of Muslims from Herzegovina.

war criminals would be subject to arrest, but also any man who served in the Bosnian Serb army during the war. After that there were about half a dozen minor attacks against international monitors and the 31,000 peacekeeping troops, including one attack against an American soldier stationed in the town of Vlasenica.

The attacks and the boycott are largely symbolic. No one has been seriously injured and the joint institutions have no influence in the actual governing of Bosnia. But they are a message to the outside world not to disrupt the status quo.

At first glance this might seem curious. Few Bosnians express much love for their leaders. Muslims in Sarajevo slam the ruling party for its Islamic correctness and nepotism. Ethnic Croats and Serbs are well aware of the corruption and brutality of their leaders.

But while the ethnic leaderships have no great following, they have managed to instill in their people a deep fear of the opposing ethnic groups. The war has transformed neighbors, who speak the same language and are ethnically indistinguishable, into stereotypes. Croats in the divided city of Mostar,

for example, will ever earnestly that just over the bridge the Muslims are setting up an Islamic state modeled after Iran. It is nonsense, of course, but as propaganda it works.

Winner Take All

If there were winners in this war, they are the nationalist cliques in Zagreb, Belgrade and Sarajevo, which have dealt a mortal blow to the concept of a civil society and the rule of law.

The rights of the individual are subjugated to the aims of the ethnic state. All crimes and repression, including ethnic cleansing and murder, are justified in the state's battle to survive. And the rights of any ethnic minority, just by being a minority, are jettisoned to purify the nation.

Serbs and Croats who lived in Sarajevo, for example, have had their homes confiscated by the Muslim Government and cannot return to what is now a Muslim city. The rival Bosnian Serb and Croat enclaves, along with neighboring Croatia, have not only carried out widespread confiscations but have also pillaged, looted and murdered.

Even the institutions charged with providing a moral voice have been seduced by the dark elixir of nationalism.

The Serbian Orthodox Church, which remains closely linked to the Bosnian Serb leadership, recently held a conference in Belgrade on the "genocide" against Serbs in the war. Although perhaps 90 percent of all victims in the war were Muslim and Croat, they were not mentioned.

The Catholic church in Croatia has never denounced the egregious crimes committed by Croats against the Serb minority in this war. And Islamic leaders in Sarajevo have also readily given their blessing to the state.

The conflict has also snuffed out the careers of those who believed coexistence was possible. Tolerant voices, like that of the former Prime Minister Ante Markovic, are now rarely heard, even within the disorganized and weak opposition parties.

Any act of reconciliation and tolerance now comes at the initiative of individuals. But the weight of all those institutions that have an iron hold over these three ethnic enclaves easily crushes and renders insignificant such small acts of charity.

Silliness as a Balm

Hogan! Germans Need You.

By ALAN COWELL

BURDENED by decades of guilt, Germans are understandably reluctant to mine their past for laughs. So it's surprising to say the least that each evening at 6:30 the ratings jump by 50 percent on the Munich-based Cable One network, as up to 840,000 Germans tune in to "Hogan's Heroes," the American prisoner-of-war sitcom that even some Americans criticized as insensitive to World War II's horrors when it first aired in the 1960's.

Here, writ large in this comedy of caricatures, are the gray and black uniforms of the Hitler era, the barbed wire and the wooden huts of a prison camp — totems that usually evoke feelings of shame mixed with revulsion in Germans. So what's the joke?

"It's very simple," said Josef Joffe, a newspaper commentator in Munich. The two main German characters of the series — Colonel Klink, the prison commandant, and the beefy guard Sergeant Schultz — "are absolutely non-threatening."

"They are bumbling fools who do not confront Germans with the classic Hollywood image of the cold, ultra-competent Nazi, the cruel Himmler figure bestriding the world in jackboots," he said.

That is to say, Germans don't mind laughing at Germans in Nazi uniforms provided they are clearly, very clearly, shown to be buffoons — as Third Reich Lite rather than the manifestations of 20th-century evil that Germans regularly see in their history books and much of the rest of popular culture.

Cageful of Heroes

This explanation of the show's current appeal is supported by its mixed track record in Germany. When first introduced here in 1992 by another channel, with a title that translates roughly as "Barbed Wire and Clean Heels," it was aired without attention to certain nuances of presentation. And it was a ratings flop. Then Cable One hired some creative dubbers to rework it a bit.

It was renamed, somewhat more whimsically, "A Cageful of Heroes." Klink and Schultz were given broad Swabian and Bavarian dialects, playing on regional stereotypes to underline the notion that they are comic figures — not to be confused with, say, the depraved concentration camp commandant played by Ralph Fiennes in the Steven Spielberg film "Schindler's List."

Tough plot lines in the original American episodes, like a German plan to blitz London, were written out and replaced with a German plan to bombard Britain with condoms and thus win the war through birth control — shades of Woody Allen's comedic dubbing of a Japanese spy thriller in "What's Up, Tiger Lily?"

And, of course, the show's stiff-arm salutes could not be accompanied by "Heil Hitler!" Instead, the new dubbing has German officers barking out, "This is how high the cornflowers grow!" as they raise their arms.

The ratings have soared, and Cable One credits the revamping for the turnaround. Although the show generates nothing like the viewership of top German programs (No. 1 is a nightly newscast that draws some 8.44 million viewers), "Hogan's Heroes" is first in its time slot among Germany's newer cable channels, says Cable One, which is available nationally. In contrast, "Seinfeld," another American import, was canceled by the channel this month because, as one insider put it, its "slick, East Coast American humor just passed people by."

Ridiculous? Yes. Funny? Well . . .

The success of "Hogan's Heroes" here is all the more remarkable in light of German laws drawn up specifically to prevent glorification of the Third Reich or trivialization of the Holocaust. But the show passes muster. The smart American — epitomized by Bob Crane in the role of Col. Robert Hogan — always outwits the dumb German, while the Wehrmacht is reduced to an array of scheming, ineffective dolts. And in the German view, the show's very silliness distances it from the realities of genocide.

Indeed, its offensiveness — if not its wit — seems broadly accepted. "I don't see anything insulting in the one or two episodes I've seen," said Ignatz Babis, the head of the main Jewish organization in Germany. "On the other hand, it's not very funny; ridiculous, yes, but not worth laughing at."

But — again, this being Germany — can anything be that simple? Can the past ever be diminished, forgotten or glossed over?

Comic relief, of course, can't exist without Angst — otherwise, what would it provide relief from? And so it can be argued that "Hogan's Heroes" provides an antidote to a veritable catalogue of anguished re-examinations of German war culpability in popular culture.

The most striking visual example is "Schindler's List." The 1994 movie, profoundly shocking to young Germans in particular, exploded a myth. Until then, many Germans preferred not to question the notion that they or their forebears were helpless against Hitler's power. Instead, the example of Oskar Schindler bore the deeply disturbing message that even a cynical businessman could do something to save Jews while the bulk of "good" Germans did nothing.

Against that, "A Cageful of Heroes," running in its revised form since 1993, offers a balm. The monocled Col. Wilhelm Klink (Werner Klemperer) and Sgt. Hans Schultz (John Banner), the guard with an appetite for bratwurst and denial ("I see nothings"), are counterpoints to the sadistic camp commandant of "Schindler's List." No one dies in "Hogan's Heroes." Rather than despise their captors, Mr. Joffe notes, the prisoners are in cahoots with them to dupe the bigwigs in Berlin.

Significantly, moreover, the bulk of the audience that has elevated the American series to near cult status is composed of 14- to 29-year-old males, said Petra Wirtz, a spokeswoman for Cable One.

In other words, those who watch the series are not



"Hogan's Heroes" is winning healthy ratings in Germany because Colonel Klink is an antidote to Angst.

contemporaries of the real Klinks and Schultzes who bore arms and watched over camps; they are a newer generation for whom the horrors are more distant, for whom being German means living in a peaceful, comfortable Europe in which nationalism has been subsumed in the striving for a broader, continent-wide identity. That, perhaps, is why the series, produced in the United States between 1965 and 1971 (and still shown in some markets there), took more than 25 years to cross the Atlantic.

"Normally when you are confronted with German history, you learn about evil and feelings of guilt," said Bernd Nussbaum, a 26-year-old student in Bonn. "This is the opposite. It's sarcastic and ironic and you don't feel

confronted at all. It's funny."

Indeed, Ms. Wirtz noted, the show is followed by a dubbed version of "M*A*S*H," providing an evening dose of what she called "antiwar comedy" that fits easily into modern Germany's broadly pacifist mood.

Perhaps the most telling message of all is that it took a foreign-made farce to bypass Germany's own deep reluctance to be seen as trivializing a monstrous past. Thus, here as anywhere else, it has become easy enough to laugh at what Aristotle defined as comedy's quintessential juxtaposition — the bishop and the banana skin, or the world's greatest evil brought low by a plateful of schnitzel and sauerkraut.

Ideas & Trends

NASA Flew to Mars For Rocks? Sure.

By AMY HARMON

BACK when Apollo 11 allegedly landed on the moon, conspiracy buffs complained that not enough information had been released to tell whether it really had or not.

The skeptics are still ruffled about the moon landing. "Thousands of pictures were taken of the moon during the Apollo missions and yet the public is only shown the same dozen or so — don't you ever wonder why?" one diehard demanded on an Internet news group last week.

Not even the most determined doubter could make the same case for the Mars mission. For two weeks now, earthlings have been bombarded with high-resolution images, press conferences and geological readings. Yet perhaps precisely because of the abundance of information, suspicions about the veracity of the data coming from outer space have soared — especially on the Internet, the information overload.

The amorphous network often fosters the nagging hope that if only all the data on it could be adequately sorted, truth would finally emerge. This is coupled with the utter certainty that such nirvana can never be attained, and thus the peculiarly comforting suspicion that something important is being hidden. And the Pathfinder landing plays right into such binary logic.

"There's such a glut of information anyway that there's a cognitive dissonance," said Richard Metzger, whose World Wide Web site, www.dinfo.com, has been a hub of Mars conjecture. "There's this incredible distrust about what we're being told about everything and it resonates through the whole culture. I think that's a good thing."

With no editing for space, taste or accuracy, e-speculation can get rather elaborate. Not much gets past the pros in alt.conspir-

acy, for instance. "GOLD ON MARS," is the title line of a long exchange on sci.electronics.design. A loud if not necessarily large contingent also continues to bemoan the choice of the Ares Vallis plain as Pathfinder's landing site, over the preferable Cydonia. As perhaps not everyone knows, Cydonia is a rock configuration on the other side of the planet that marks the site of "the monuments and ruins of an ancient civiliza-

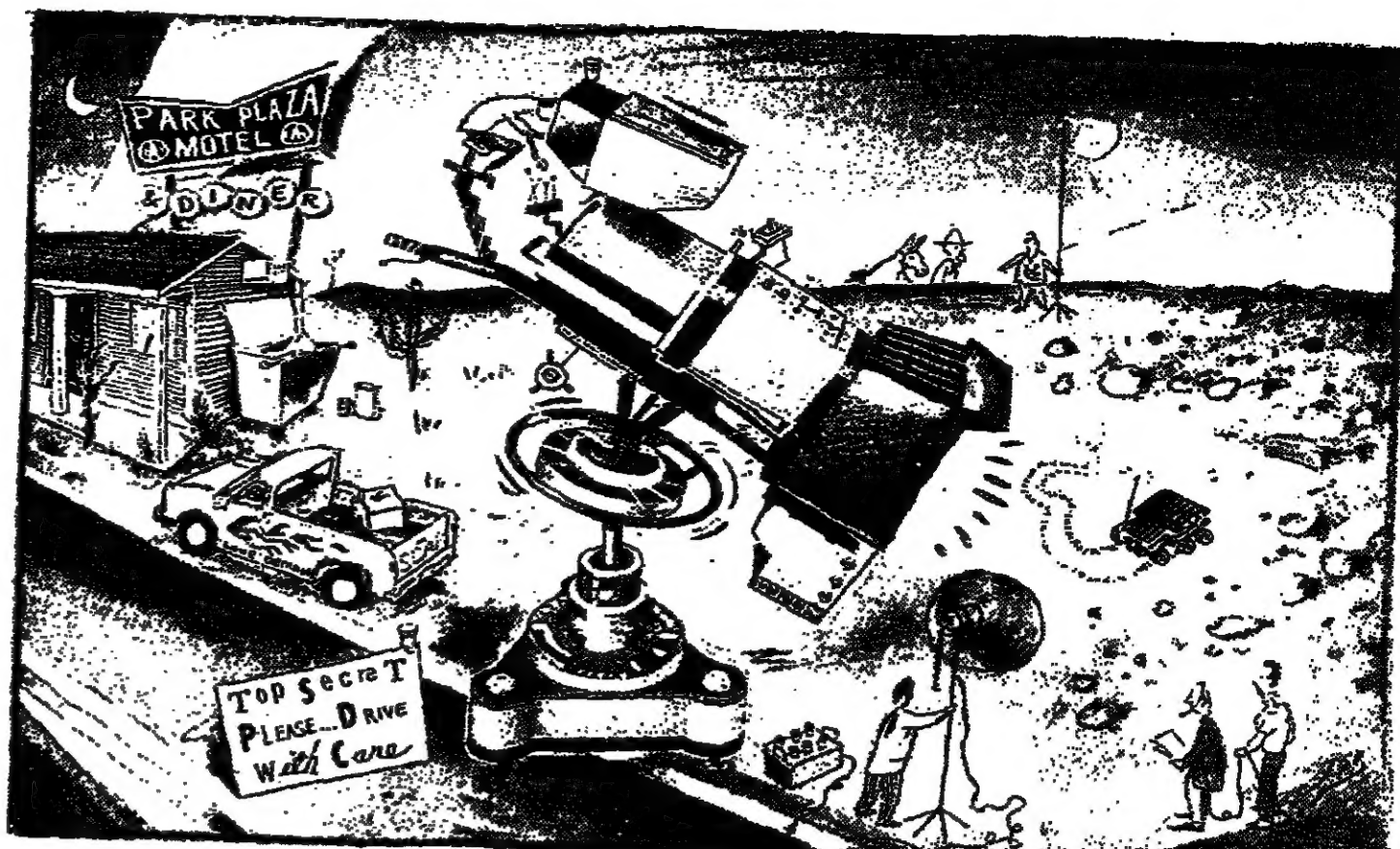
The Mars mission brings out the conspiracy theories.

tion," according to one of several World Wide Web pages on the subject.

But the wide range of Internet theories about the Pathfinder spacecraft's true activities can ultimately be broken down into two basic camps:

1. Pathfinder is nowhere near Mars. If it exists at all, it is most likely in Albuquerque, although possibly Arizona. Or Australia. If you look closely at some of the alleged Mars pictures, you can see a lizard, an Evian bottle or a speckle from the Photoshop computer program NASA is using to manufacture the pictures. The scientists, or their anonymous backers, or whoever it is that really runs the United States Government, anyway, are pocketing the cash.

2. Pathfinder is on Mars, but does the Government really think we're stupid enough to believe they would go to this much trouble just to collect a bunch of rocks? If you look closely at some of the pictures you can see a Martian footprint. Or at least some moss. The Government has for years



John S. Dykes

covered up previous extraterrestrial contact and this is a) just one more piece of the big lie or b) a transparent attempt to distract attention from the 50th anniversary of the U.F.O. crash in Roswell, N.M., just as that ridiculous weather balloon story was finally about to bite the dust.

Greetings, Earther

The NASA folks, still stinging from accusations that the Mars Observer spacecraft that disappeared in 1993 was in fact blasted out of space by aliens, don't take kindly to either suggestion, infinite variations of which have been streaming into the Jet Propulsion Laboratory via electronic mail.

"This isn't Capricorn One," said NASA's Kirk Goodall, referring to the 1978 film that portrayed a NASA-orchestrated fake Mars landing on a soundstage in the desert. "This is the first mission when we've released the pictures and results almost immediately.

We're not concealing anything."

Perhaps that's the problem. When it comes to things space age, the line between reality and its various representations has long been easily blurred. Orson Welles's 1938 reading of "War of the Worlds" found an audience all too prepared to believe in its fantastic account. In the 1971 movie "Diamonds Are Forever," James Bond drove a buggy through a fake moonscape in Nevada. And conspiracy aficionados have long contended that the moon landing was staged, filmed by Stanley Kubrick of "2001" fame.

But especially now, believing in aliens or Hollywood special effects may be more palatable than confronting the unsettling realities of what science is capable of. And the deluge of Mars information may make it that much easier to ascribe elusiveness to an obvious truth.

On the other hand, an E-mail message circulated on the Internet last week indicates that maybe the truth is not all that obvious to

Martians, either. "Mars Air Force Denies Stories of UFO Crash," the message began. This was the report: "Valles Marineris (MPI) — A spokesthing for Mars Air Force denounced as false rumors that an alien space craft crashed in the desert, outside of Ares Vallis on Friday. Appearing at a press conference today, General Rgrmrrny the Lesser, stated that 'the object was, in fact, a harmless high-altitude weather balloon, not an alien spacecraft.' General Rgrmrrny the Lesser stated that hysterical stories of a detachable vehicle roaming across the Martian desert were blatant fiction, provoked by incidences involving swamp gas."

"But the general public has been slow to accept the Air Force's explanation of recent events, preferring to speculate on the 'other-worldly' nature of the crash debris. Conspiracy theorists have condemned Rgrmrrny's statements as evidence of 'an obvious Government cover-up,' pointing out that Mars has no swamps."

Re-enacting Flight 800

In the Air, No Mysteries Allowed

By MATTHEW L. WALD

TWO days short of a year since Trans World Airlines Flight 800 exploded in flight, crash investigators ran one of the most elaborate re-enactments ever, from the same airport, at the same hour of takeoff, flying a 747 of the same vintage over the same flight path. In the belly tank of the plane was the same amount of fuel, from the same refinery in Greece, warmed to about the same temperature by the air-conditioning equipment and — by chance — by the same sultry weather as on July 17, 1996.

The cockpit crew members threw switches on their control panels at precisely the times that the T.W.A. crewmen had. But this time, about 150 sensors tracked temperatures, pressures and fuel/air ratios that had never been measured before. The re-enactment was a success in the sense that the plane reached the altitude at which the explosion occurred within 30 seconds of Flight 800's flight time.

What is spookiest is not the re-enactment itself, but that it may turn out to be the way of the future.

Most crash investigations end quickly, because of clues in the wreckage or information from the "black boxes," the flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder. This month, at the National Transportation Safety Board's urging, the Federal Aviation Administration ordered airlines to upgrade their old black boxes, and manufacturers to put better ones on new planes. That should

cut the number of future mysteries.

But for those investigations that are not wrapped up quickly, more and more is required. The reason is that regardless of the cost, public tolerance for unexplained air disasters is near zero. More than knowing whether cell phones cause brain tumors or whether acid rain kills forests, people want to know what made Flight 800 blow up, killing all 230 people aboard.

Fear of Uncertainty

Public officials confronting other mysterious deaths could probably solve more than 230 of them with a budget of more than \$130,000 per death, which is what the safety board has committed so far. (The F.B.I. hasn't said what it has spent, but it is probably more.) But cost is not a factor.

What counts is the fear of uncertainty. "This is a hard business, and it probably is only going to get harder," the chairman of

the safety board, James Hall, said in an interview. "The fewer accidents you have, the more reliance you have on aviation transportation, the less tolerance we have for accidents." And the expectation is that the Government knows everything and should tell everything.

Yet the explanations also tend to be increasingly complicated. Planes do not crash for simple reasons; years of learning from mistakes have made planes ever safer. That means each crash is caused by a rare combination of complex circumstances.

Future investigations may also be complicated because they involve new issues posed by aging aircraft, as the number of old planes grows. Age could be a factor in the crash of TWA 800, which was 25 years old, though there is no evidence so far.

No matter what the cause, concern over the crash of Flight 800 is so widespread a year later that news organizations are conducting polls of the kind usually used in the New Hampshire primary. On the eve of the anniversary, Fox News said it had surveyed 901 registered voters and found that mechan-

The public wants to know why crashes happen. And it thinks the Government always has the answer.

ical failure was the leading candidate in the public's mind, with a missile a strong second and a bomb lagging in third.

Frustration Upon High

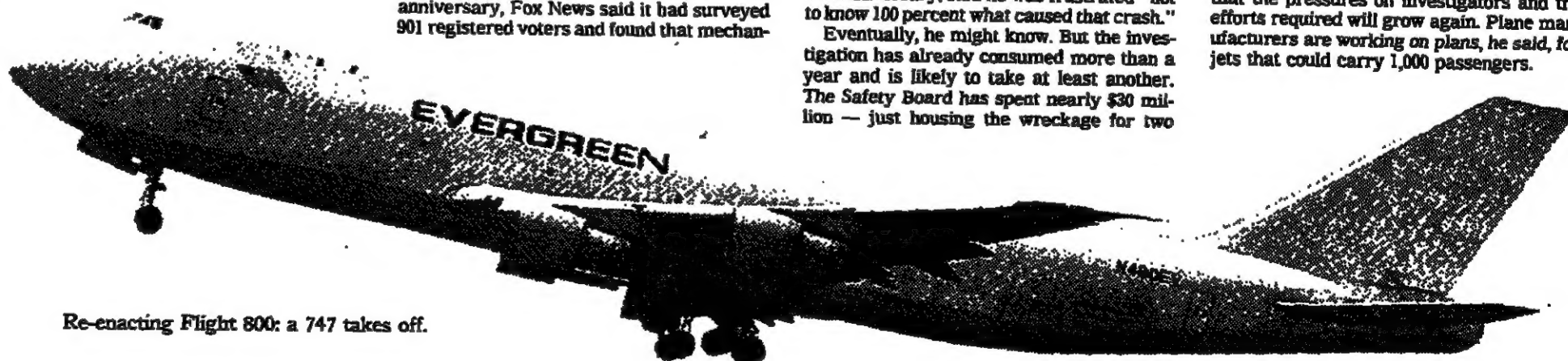
The question also comes up at Presidential appearances. President Clinton, asked about Flight 800 in a Rose Garden appearance on the anniversary, said he was frustrated "not to know 100 percent what caused that crash." Eventually, he might know. But the investigation has already consumed more than a year and is likely to take at least another. The Safety Board has spent nearly \$30 million — just housing the wreckage for two

years will cost \$10 million — and before it is done it will push the boundaries of engineering knowledge.

Two years would still be far short of the record, however. Later this year, investigators hope to wrap up the 1994 crash of a USAir 737 near Pittsburgh. That investigation required the safety board to fly two airplanes in a re-enactment, a 737 plus a 727 of the kind that had crossed the USAir plane's path moments before the accident.

To learn everything possible about another crash, of an American Eagle turboprop in Roselawn, Ind., in October 1994, the board flew one of those planes, an ATR-72, behind an Air Force tanker that sprayed it with water at high altitude to re-create icing.

The Transportation Department has committed the F.A.A. to a goal of zero accidents. But the way there could lead through even bigger crashes in the future. Difficult as it is to confront the crash of a lightly loaded 737 with "only" 230 people aboard, Mr. Hall said that the pressures on investigators and the efforts required will grow again. Plane manufacturers are working on plans, he said, for jets that could carry 1,000 passengers.



Re-enacting Flight 800: a 747 takes off.

James Estrine/The New York Times

The Better Half Got the Worse End

Continued From Page 1

away from AIDS treatment, said Dr. Janet Mitchell, the head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Interfaith Medical Center in Brooklyn. "Communities of color tend to see Western medicine as an alternative and to see naturalistic, holistic approaches as what they will try first," she said. "If that fails, then maybe they'll say, 'Well, all right, Doc, I'll take your pills.'"

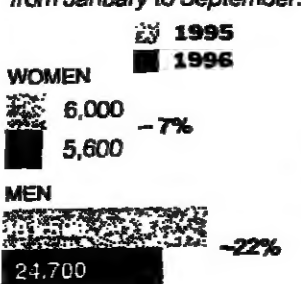
In a sense, the AIDS gender gap reflects the history of women with AIDS, a history in which women have always lagged behind men. AIDS made its first appearance in the United States in 1981 in homosexual men, who are now reaping most of the benefits of early prevention and education efforts. It was not until several years later that women began turning up with AIDS in large numbers. Some experts say it is to be expected that deaths in women will peak later in the epidemic.

Theresa McGovern, the legal director of the H.I.V. Law Project in Manhattan, holds a different view. She blames the Federal Government for the disparity. "Ever since the beginning of this epidemic," she complained, "women have been overlooked."

Women and AIDS

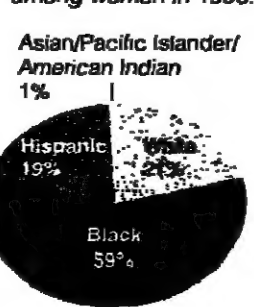
AIDS-related deaths among women are not falling as sharply as those among men, and most women with AIDS are members of minorities.

Estimated number of AIDS-related deaths from January to September.



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

AIDS cases reported among women in 1996.



THE NEW YORK TIMES

Ms. McGovern noted that it was not until 1993, after her group brought suit, that the Centers for Disease Control expanded its official list of AIDS-related illnesses to include ailments that are particular to women, such as cervical cancer and chronic yeast infections. And even now, many doctors fail to recognize these conditions as signs of H.I.V. infection.

Moreover, it has only been four years since the National Institutes of Health began permitting women of childbearing age to participate in the early phases of AIDS clinical trials. Today, women account for 16 percent of the patients in Government-financed AIDS studies, according to Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

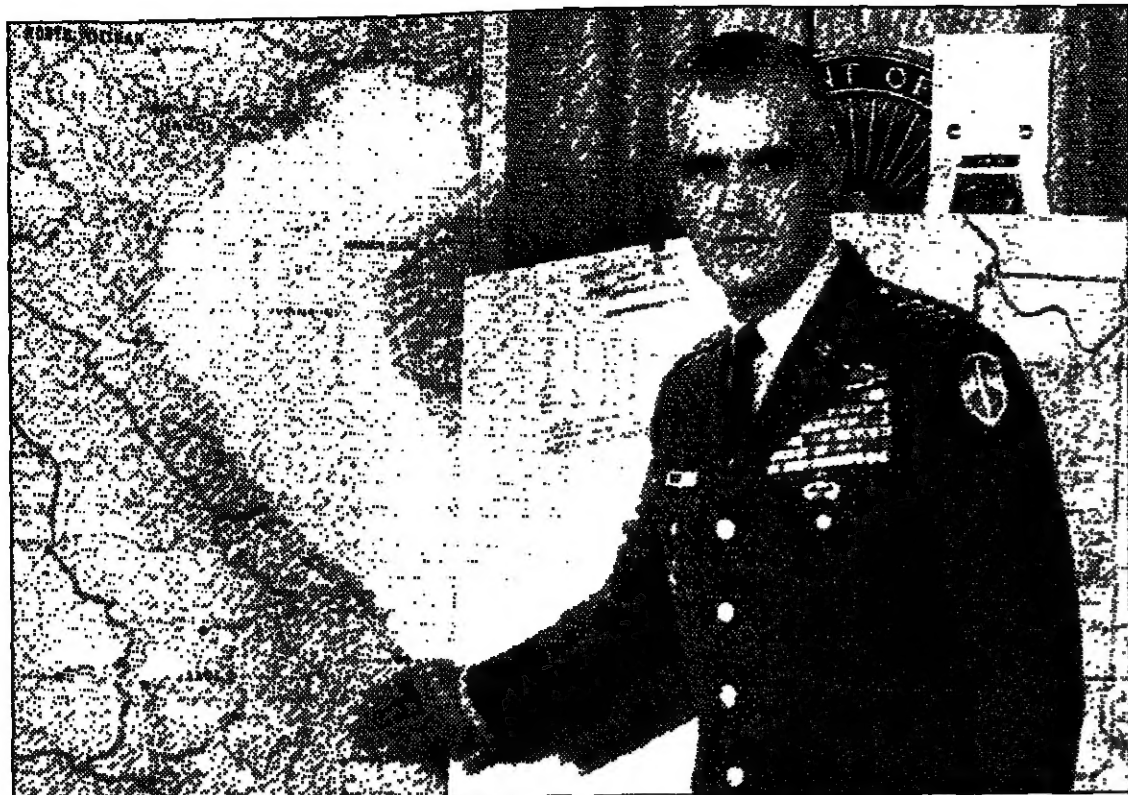
There are some efforts to close the AIDS gender gap. The Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation, the charitable arm of the pharmaceutical company, recently gave \$220,000 to the American Foundation for AIDS Research to establish the first national program to recruit and keep women in clinical trials. The foundation is giving the money to 12 community groups to study ways to overcome obstacles that keep women from enrolling in research, such as lack of day care or transportation.

After new AIDS drugs take wide effect, the gender gap is going to get even bigger.

But Dr. Arthur Amman, who heads the AIDS research foundation, does not expect change in the numbers anytime soon. The statistics just released, he said, do not fully reflect the impact of protease inhibitors, the new drugs that have revolutionized AIDS treatment. "After we see the impact of the protease inhibitors," he said, "the gap is going to get even bigger."

Perhaps just as troubling as the new numbers, Dr. Amman and others say, is the false impression they have left with the public. "You are reading in the paper that the epidemic is over," said Ms. McGovern, the legal aid lawyer, "and yet we are still watching these women die."

The Nation



Gen. William Westmoreland, shown at a 1967 briefing, was accused of understating enemy strength.



Lieut. Col. Oliver L. North misled Congress about arms sales to Iran.



Lieut. Kelly Flinn lied about a love affair.

A Rigidly Flexible Notion of Truth

By ELAINE SCIOFINO

WHEN it comes to telling the truth, the American military draws a clear bright line.

"Under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, any person who knowingly deceives, signs any false record or makes 'any other false official statement' will be 'punished as a court-martial may direct.'"

The reason for such uncompromising harshness makes sense: a bond of trust between a commander and the troops is crucial to winning wars. The punishment for deception is much tougher for officers, who are held to a higher ethical standard than enlisted soldiers. Where civilian life accepts lying in the name of good manners, privacy and many other matters, the military feels it cannot.

"On the battlefield people's lives are dependent on the word of others," said Maj. Lindsey E. Arnold, an Army chaplain and an expert on ethics. "The issues here are ones of life and death."

In the 1991 war against Iraq, a soldier falsified a report on whether a resupply route from Saudi Arabia into Iraq was free of mines. It wasn't, and an American officer was killed when a mine exploded.

But the immutable need to tell the truth on the battlefield clashes with the reality of peacetime. The military, it turns out, is often as inclined as other employers to tolerate, encourage and sometimes require people to lie.

In matters of the heart, for example, military rules

encourage forms of deception. Unlike stealing and murder, fraternization and adultery are punishable only when they disrupt good order and discipline.

If an affair is discreet, it hurts no one, the reasoning goes. Concealment keeps one from becoming a criminal. The military does not seek out adulterers and fraternizers, and it is only when their activity is reported that an investigation is started and the accused is called upon to tell the truth.

The Air Force, which prosecutes adultery and fraternization more vigorously than the other services, says it is encountering more cases involving lying, which is a more serious charge than fraternization or adultery.

Take the case of First Lieut. Kelly Flinn, the first female B-52 pilot, who was charged with committing adultery with a civilian married to an enlisted airman, and other offenses. The adultery charge would have brought a maximum prison sentence of one year; her sworn statement that the relationship was "platonic" when it was not could have brought five years.

Doing the Right Thing

The case of Second Lieut. William R. Kite Jr., a security police supervisor, is even more dramatic. He was initially charged with two counts of fraternization, even though it involved only one woman, an enlisted airman who left the service and became his wife. He twice denied to his superiors that they were involved, but confronted with records of their telephone conversations, he confessed. He was praised for doing the right thing — and promptly charged with two instances of lying. The two fraternization charges could have carried a prison sentence of up to four years, the lying charges 10.

Lieutenants Flinn and Kite received general discharges.

Living a lie is the only way homosexuals can serve in the military. Three weeks into his Presidency in 1993, President Clinton vowed to end the need for such lying. But that's not what happened. And despite recent court challenges, the current "Don't ask, don't tell" policy codifies the practice of deception that is anathema to the military code.

As a National Security Council aide, Lieut. Col. Oliver L. North was convicted in 1989 of three felony counts, including "aiding and abetting" the Reagan Ad-

The military has good reasons never to tolerate lying. Except sometimes.

ministration's effort to deceive Congress when he wrote false chronologies about the arms-for-hostages initiative in Iran. A year later, a Federal appeals court threw out the convictions because his immunized testimony had been improperly used against him.

Telling less than the whole truth, purportedly in the interest of national security, does not carry the same stigma as lying to save one's skin.

During the Vietnam War, Gen. William C. Westmoreland and his aides were accused of deliberately giving falsely low estimates of the Vietcong's troop strength in

1967, in the months leading up to the Tet offensive. During the 1991 Gulf war, Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf, the commander of American troops, gave news briefings based on bomb damage assessments that many intelligence analysts disputed as far too optimistic. Both generals denied the accusations.

Lies of Omission

"Every profession develops a set of exceptions where it thinks it is all right to lie," said Sissela Bok, the author of the 1978 classic, "Lying" (Pantheon Books). "In the military the big exception has to do with lying to the enemy, and there it is sometimes justified. The trouble is that it involves lying to your own citizens as well."

Gen. Joseph Ralston of the Air Force, who was up for the job of Chairman of Joints Chiefs of Staff at the time of the Kelly Flinn imbroglio, was criticized for failing to inform Secretary of Defense William Cohen about an adulterous relationship he had 13 years before.

"General Ralston's so-called 'lies of omission' are more harmful to good order and discipline than any lies that any lieutenants tell regarding their sex lives," wrote Capt. Joseph E. Cazenavette, Lieutenant Kite's lawyer. "Now with General Ralston continuing in his post despite his adultery and omissions, the existence of a double standard is ratified."

Before he withdrew from the running, General Ralston told Mr. Cohen he had tried to learn from his mistake. "Our armed forces are composed of human beings that strive to meet the highest standards every day," he said, "but I am acutely aware of human strengths and human frailties."

It Worked in Watergate

Playing the Immunity Card

By STEPHEN LABATON

AFTER being granted immunity by Congress a generation ago and providing the extraordinary testimony that helped topple President Richard M. Nixon, John W. Dean 3d, his former White House counsel, spent four months in Federal custody for conspiracy to obstruct justice.

Now a new Congressional committee investigating a different White House is contemplating whether to confer immunity on John Huang, the former top Democratic fund-raiser and Government official. But most lawmakers assume Mr. Huang could never be prosecuted if he testified as Mr. Dean was. That is because since Watergate, a Federal appeals court examining the Iran-contra case against Oliver L. North erected virtually insurmountable barriers to prosecutors who go after witnesses immunized by Congress.

Congress now grants immunity less often than in the days before the North decision. But an old tension between immunity and prosecution survives.

A legal concept first developed in 18th-century Britain, immunity in the United States is intended to protect the Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination while still giving investigators the ability to gather evidence. It is the reverse of the Miranda warning, itself rooted in the Fifth Amendment: A witness granted immunity has no right to remain silent, but nothing that he says can be used against him.

Congress passed the first immunity law in 1897 to force testimony of bribery and corruption in the House of Representatives over the disposal of public lands. Before long, criminals looked upon it as their get-out-of-jail card.

The courts have made Congress choose between fact-finding and prosecuting.

"For five years, rascals and scalawags of various stripes journeyed with celebrity to Congress to confess and thus receive an 'immunity bath' that cleansed them, if not of their sins, at least of legal culpability for crimes committed," wrote James Hamilton, a lawyer on the Senate Watergate committee, in his book "The Power to Probe" (Random House, 1978).

The current law was adopted in 1970 as part of the Omnibus Crime Control Act that the Justice Department proposed at a time when Mr. Dean was an aide to Attorney General John N. Mitchell.

Mr. Dean said he was willing to testify without immunity. But because the White House tapes had not yet surfaced and his testimony was sure to be challenged by Mr. Nixon's top aides, his lawyer, Charles N.



John W. Dean 3d followed text with his fingers during Senate Watergate committee testimony in 1973.

Shaffer, insisted he seek immunity.

Still, the Watergate committee's chief counsel, Sam Dash, was unwilling to accept Mr. Shaffer's version of Mr. Dean's testimony before recommending immunity. So Mr. Dash held a series of 2 A.M. rendezvous with Mr. Dean.

These secret sessions, the two men recounted in interviews last week, were to persuade Mr. Dash that Mr. Dean deserved immunity because he was a credible witness and because he had important, and incriminating, things to say about President Nixon. Under an unusual arrangement, Mr. Dash agreed that if the committee did not grant immunity, he would not use the information. The special prosecutor at the time, Archibald Cox, opposed granting immunity, fearing it would compromise his investigation and possible prosecutions.

In hindsight it is clear to the prosecutors and Congressional investigators of Watergate that the immunity conferred on 27 witnesses was essential.

Taking the Fifth

Yet that immunity did not prevent many of the targets from being convicted. In part, this was because many of Mr. Nixon's lieutenants, uncomfortable with the image of themselves taking the Fifth Amendment, never sought immunity.

During the Iran-contra hearings, many more White House aides invoked the Fifth. Eager to find a compelling witness and to hear Mr. North's account, the committee hastily granted him immunity without finding out

beforehand what he would say. That decision proved fatal to the prosecutors, who saw Mr. North's conviction reversed by a Federal appeals court.

Hobson's Choice

"The Fifth Amendment requires that the Government establish priorities before making the immunization decision," wrote Judges Laurence H. Silberman and David B. Sentelle, two of the most conservative Reagan appointees of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, as they accepted the argument of the American Civil Liberties Union and overturned the conviction of Mr. North. "The Government must occasionally decide which it values more: immunization (perhaps to discharge institutional duties, such as congressional fact-finding and information dissemination) or prosecution."

If the Government chooses immunity, the judges said, then it must understand that "it is taking a great chance that the witness cannot constitutionally be indicted or prosecuted."

Congress has granted immunity to more than 300 witnesses since 1970. But Mr. Dean said he never considered using his to avoid a conviction. "I tried to do the right thing, and to me that was to accept responsibility," he said. "It would be a pretty shallow victory to get off on a technicality as Ollie North did."

Mr. Dean says his lawyer still thinks he had good grounds to challenge the charges against him. "Charlie said to me a few years ago that we had a much better case than Ollie North ever had," he said.

Top 10 List As Mirror

Continued From Page 1

see suspects move and speak on screen.

Mr. Cunanan, who seems to change his look with chameleonlike ease, can be seen on the World Wide Web at www.fbi.gov/mostwanted/cunah.htm, where the suddenly famous image of the choirboy in short dark hair and wire-rimmed glasses seems jarringly at odds with the man with the blond buzz cut who glares from one of three "additional photos."

In recent years, the F.B.I.'s concern with terrorism has prompted it to publicize its list abroad, relying on overseas newspapers and the Voice of America to translate news about the fugitives into other languages. Last month, the Top 10 became nine with the capture in Pakistan of Mir Aamir Khan after four years on the run as the suspect in the shooting deaths of two C.I.A. employees outside the agency's gates in 1993. (Officials said the \$2 million reward, rather than the wanted list, was pivotal in the arrest.)

Where the Money Was

Suspects like Mr. Kansi were nowhere to be found in 1950, when the list was first circulated to newspapers, magazines and radio and TV stations. Back then the agency considered bank heists serious enough to make room on the list for Willie Sutton, who robbed banks because that's where the money was.

The 1960's brought a new era. The list reflected the preoccupation of the F.B.I. Director, J. Edgar Hoover, with what he viewed as subversive political figures. In that decade black militant and antiwar radicals made it to the top 10, including H. Rap Brown, Angela Davis, Bernadine Dohrn and Katherine Ann Power.

The list had its full complement in 1970 when Mr. Hoover was said to have ordered it expanded to 14 to include four men wanted in the fatal bombing at a University of Wisconsin mathematics research center affiliated with the military. One has never been found.

Later, the country's widening concern about narcotics prompted the F.B.I. to place drug lords in the top 10, including Juan Garcia Abrego, arrested last year. The most recent shift is the emphasis on terrorists. Prominent on the list now are the two men charged with planting the bomb aboard Pan Am Flight 103, which disintegrated in a fireball over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988, killing 270 people.

Still, fugitives suspected of violent crimes occupy a secure niche. As an interstate fugitive and hence a Federal outlaw, Mr. Cunanan joined several others wanted in homicide-related offenses. (In general, homicide itself is not a Federal crime unless the victim is a law-enforcement officer or Government employee.)

In past years, other well-known fugitive killers have made it on the list. The serial killer Theodore Bundy was on the list for five days in 1978. James Earl Ray, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassin, was on the list — twice. He was on for two months as a fugitive in 1968 and again when he escaped for two days in 1977. As one Federal law enforcement official who has closely followed the top-10 list described it, "Homicide is one crime that is never out of fashion."

ECONOMY

In a Scandal, Sears Reveals its Tougher Side

By BARNABY J. FEDER

BECAUSE a disabled, financially strapped Massachusetts father was desperate to keep a television set to entertain his children, Arthur C. Martinez faces a defining moment in his remarkable career as chairman and chief executive of Sears, Roebuck & Company.

The father, Francis M. Latanowich, overwhelmed by his monthly bills from Sears, turned for help last November to Carol Kenner, chief judge of the United States Bankruptcy Court in Boston. Judge Kenner wondered why Sears was in contact with Mr. Latanowich, who had gone through bankruptcy proceedings in 1996 that should have wiped clean his debts to the company.

Her astonishing conclusion: Sears had talked Mr. Latanowich into signing a new debt-collection contract that used threatening wording that it had been told in court was illegal in Massachusetts, and then, to avoid having the contract thrown out, had ignored its obligation to file it with the bankruptcy court for review.

Further inquiries revealed that Sears had been doing much the same with other debtors. It had routinely skipped filing such contracts in some areas as far back as 1985, and since

1992 it had collected up to \$160 million without judicial oversight.

"Sears looked the bankruptcy laws straight in the eye and defied them," said Jay Westbrook, an expert on bankruptcy law at the University of Texas.

For Mr. Martinez, who says he learned of the illegal activity in March, the revelations came as a bitter surprise. Nearly five years earlier, he had arrived at Sears headquarters in Hoffman Estates, Ill., with a mission to revive a corporate dinosaur. Sears's aging stores and beloved but outdated catalogue were performing so weakly that the retailer was getting nearly all of its profits from the finance charges paid by its 38 million credit-card customers. And, just months before he took the job, the company's reputation and sales had been battered by disclosures that some of its auto-service centers had routinely bilked customers by performing unnecessary repairs.

Mr. Martinez proceeded to pull off one of the great corporate turnarounds of modern history, through cost cutting, sharper marketing and improved efficiency. Profits soared, Sears's stock roughly quadrupled and he became a hero on Wall Street.

Through it all, Mr. Martinez was working hard to put his stamp on Sears's corporate culture, starting with a "zero tolerance" policy for ethical lapses. Now, figuring out why

Sears went so wrong despite those efforts — and how to respond to the scandal — has emerged as the greatest challenge yet to his image as a leader.

There is no evidence that the vast majority of Sears customers care about what Mr. Martinez quickly branded "a black eye" and "a clear failure" growing out of bad advice from the company's own legal department. One survey showed that fewer than 2 percent were even vaguely aware of the scandal. In sharp contrast to the aftermath of the auto-service fraud, sales have continued to climb steadily since the news broke, rising 7.1 percent in the second quarter of this year at domestic stores.

Even so, Mr. Martinez resisted any temptation to play down his employees' behavior or to stonewall potential adversaries. Sears moved quickly this spring to research and expose the scope of the transgressions to government and private lawyers investigating or suing the company. Sears also retained two respected bankruptcy lawyers, Prof. Lawrence King of New York University Law School and Richard I. Kilpatrick, who has a private practice in Michigan, to review and overhaul the company's collection practices.

Even though Mr. Martinez did not agree with critics that Sears had been systematically overaggressive in pursuing or threatening creditors, he quickly offered an unexpectedly generous settlement plan for potential claims. Tens of thousands of formerly bankrupt consumers were promised not just debt relief and cash repayments with interest but also \$100 certificates toward new Sears merchandise, a sweetener later replaced with a cash bonus. That pre-empted potentially drawn-out confrontations with the Federal Trade Commission, state attorneys general and plaintiffs' lawyers.

On July 17, Sears took a \$475 million pretax write-off against second-quarter earnings to cover the costs of the proposed settlement, which is scheduled to be presented for court approval this fall after lawyers finish reviewing Sears's records. The stock, which tumbled almost 10 percent, to \$46, when the scandal broke in April, closed on Friday at \$58.25.

"There's not a dollar's worth of profit worth having if it compromises your integrity," Mr. Martinez said.

Mr. Martinez said Sears had instituted new compliance procedures for all its businesses, had beefed up education programs and had reminded all employees about an ethics hot line that lets them raise questions anonymously about misconduct that they see or suspect.

Wall Street is taking all this as yet more evidence that Mr. Martinez deserves his executive stardom. "I give him an A-plus for how he's handled it," said Bernard Sosnick, a retail industry analyst at Genesis Merchant Group Securities in New York, who has followed Sears since the 1980's.

But for all the kudos he has won, the crisis is far from over. For while Mr. Martinez has reassured investors, he and his top managers have barely begun to assign responsibility and mete out discipline internally. The way that is done could affect the company's culture and morale for years to come.

The questions concern not just who gave faulty advice but which employees participated in illegal activity and which managers knew about the wrongdoing but failed to intervene — and for that matter, which managers should have known but didn't.

The final answers may not be comfortable for some of Sears's most senior executives, including Michael C. Levin, the chief corporate counsel since 1995, and Jane Thompson, a highly regarded protégé of Mr. Martinez who ran the credit operations from 1993 until early last year. So far, most of the blame seems to have landed on Emma G. Scott, a 44-year-old assistant general counsel, who had direct legal oversight of the collection system. She has been put on leave and has retained Joseph Duffy, a noted Chicago lawyer, as her pri-



Arthur C. Martinez found the company caught in a new scandal.

vate counsel, lawyers involved in the affair say.

But how central Ms. Scott was to the scandal is very much in doubt. She did not even join Sears until 1990, well after many of the questionable activities apparently began. An outgoing woman who appeared in many industry forums and joined the board of the American Bankruptcy Institute, the bankruptcy bar's equivalent of a trade group, Ms. Scott is widely seen in the bankruptcy bar as an unlikely mastermind.

"The whole idea that it was Emma Scott's flawed judgment is a joke," said one outside lawyer involved in the litigation, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. And some colleagues among the 53 lawyers at Sears headquarters also wonder whether Ms. Scott and their department in general may be made scapegoats.

"It is interesting how the company has shifted blame to the law department," one Sears lawyer said. "Jane Thompson headed the business."

Two missing pieces of the puzzle to outsiders are how Ms. Scott viewed Sears's credit-collection practices and whether she relayed her thoughts to her bosses. She has not appeared at any public legal functions since April and could not be reached for comment, despite various attempts. Mr. Duffy said he could not comment or even confirm that Ms. Scott is his client. Ms. Thompson, who now heads Sears's rapidly expanding home repair division, has declined through a company spokeswoman to comment on her former job.

In sorting out individual responsibility, Mr. Martinez will also have to confront the broader questions all companies face during corporate scandals. For instance, did Sears's corporate culture and compensation systems seduce loyal, well-intentioned employees into unwise or simply illegal behavior? And if so, what is to be done?

"It's a very complicated hand to play," said David Messick, an ethics professor at the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern, who uses the way that Sears handled the auto-fraud scandal as a case study on how not to respond to a public-relations crisis. "My guess is that they are facing the gamut from technical mistakes that did not really hurt anybody to clear ethical abuses in how they treated some debtors. There is an important issue of how much forgiveness is built into a corporate culture. You want to root out immoral activity because it's wrong and it's bad for business. On the other hand, you need room for honest errors. It often hinges on making very subtle judgments about the state of people's minds."

In the end, Mr. Martinez will have to choose between unpalatable alternatives: Either publicly identify and punish all the people responsible, and risk the appearance of vindictiveness — and worse, the possibility of lawsuits — or take action privately and risk creating suspicions of a whitewash or favoritism.

So far, he has said, Sears will keep to its traditional course of keeping all disciplinary actions as private as possible.

Sears says its leeway to go public is constrained not only by its internal

policies but also by a Department of Justice investigation into whether its debt-collection activities violated criminal laws. (Its proposed settlement is aimed at satisfying claims that it violated civil laws.) When Judge Kenner asked a Sears lawyer at a settlement hearing in June why Sears ever began its illegal activity, she was told that any public comment could interfere with negotiations with the Justice Department.

And on Thursday, Mr. Martinez said that although Sears had already interviewed more than 110 employees in its internal investigation, disciplinary actions would not be taken until the Department of Justice finished its work because the company wanted to be sure it had "all the facts."

"It's clear, though, that there are multiple individuals that will be affected by this," he said. "There's shared responsibility."

Mr. Martinez has had plenty of help weighing the issues, including a corporate ethics office he established in 1994. There is also a monthly policy committee, established in 1995 with members from every business unit, including the law department, that reviews the ethical implications of Sears's policies and procedures. Mr. Martinez is also chairman of a quarterly business practices meeting.

With so many forums for identifying misconduct, the obvious question is why the debt-collection abuses festered undetected until this year. To be sure, Mr. Martinez had so much to fix when he took over Sears that he may well have had neither the time nor the incentive to probe deeply into the credit operations that appeared to be a jewel.

The average balance of the company's 38 million credit customers topped \$800, roughly quadruple that of rivals like J.C. Penney, and though bad debt write-offs ran to hundreds of millions of dollars annually, the operation's profits were far higher.

Things seemed only to get better after Mr. Martinez gave the job of running the credit business in early 1993 to Ms. Thompson, an ambitious former McKinsey & Company consultant. She had joined Sears as vice president for planning in 1988 and had become one of Mr. Martinez's inner circle of subordinates while working on tough assignments like the decision to close down the money-losing but beloved Sears catalogue.

Ms. Thompson hit a strategic home run by lowering credit standards, adding more than 17 million new customers by the end of 1995 and bolstering the credit group's net income by 45 percent, to an estimated \$593 million, according to Edward Weller, a retail industry analyst at Robertson Stephens & Company. And that strong performance continued under Steven Goldstein, a former American Express Company executive recruited to succeed Ms. Thompson after she moved to head Sears's new home-repair division early last year.

The company's credit operations were so huge that Sears could afford to pay much closer attention than other retailers to the small but growing percentage of consumers who were going bankrupt each year. Unlike any other retailer, Sears routinely appeared in virtually every bank-

ruptcy affecting it. Typically, it sought to negotiate new credit agreements, known as reaffirmations, so that debtors would continue to pay active Sears accounts and make payments for goods bought prior to bankruptcy — including accumulated interest and late-payment penalties.

Without such an agreement, Sears's only recourse for nonpayment would be to go to court to try to repossess the goods — and even that is allowed only for appliances and other substantial items in which retailers are allowed to retain a "secured" interest when they sell them on credit. With reaffirmation, a debtor becomes personally liable just as if he had never been through bankruptcy, and Sears or any other creditor with such a contract can go after other sources of wealth, like wages, to get payment.

In retrospect, Sears's reaffirmation rate of nearly 40 percent — far higher than that of any other large retail credit issuer — should have had senior officials at headquarters on edge. It had raised eyebrows elsewhere in the credit industry, where criticism had been growing about reaffirmation practices from judges and bankruptcy lawyers on both sides of the fence.

"Sears always beat its chest about being the leader in reaffirmation," said William Weinstein, a Seattle lawyer who said he feared that a few "bad actors" would rob other creditors of the reaffirmation tool. Reaffirmation critics have attacked not just the aggressive pursuit of debtors but also the willingness of many debtors' lawyers and lax judges to allow or even encourage consumers to sign burdensome reaffirmations rather than invite confrontations that would drag out the bankruptcy case.

Sears's credit jewel began cracking in Massachusetts in 1990, when Judge William C. Hillman of Federal Bankruptcy Court ruled that the reaffirmation letter Sears was using included illegally threatening language. Sears continued to use the form, however, but stopped filing agreements with Judge Hillman and his colleagues in Boston, a clear violation of the law.

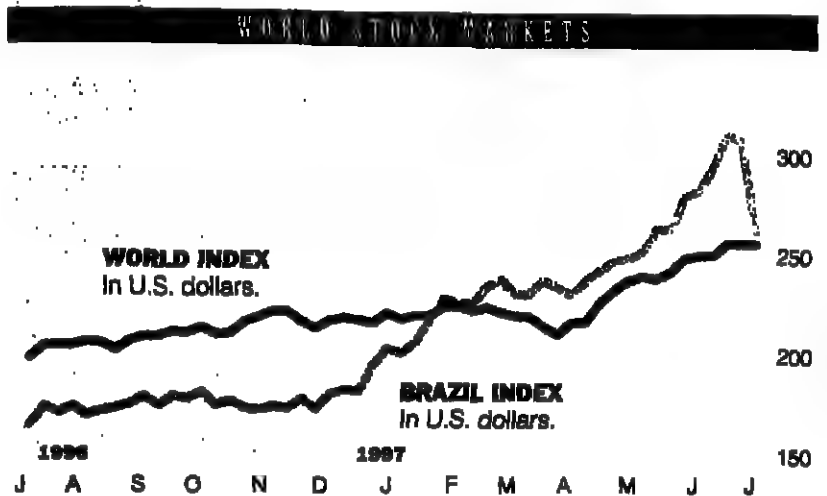
That came to light after Mr. Latanowich, a resident of the Boston suburb of Somerville living on a monthly Social Security check of \$518, complained to Judge Kenner in a hand-scratched note that his payments to Sears to keep his television and car battery were making it impossible for him to feed his children.

THE subsequent debt-collection scandal at Sears, the nation's largest retail credit card issuer, immediately focused attention on the credit practices of other retailers. Two, May Department Stores and Montgomery Ward, have recently been hit with class action lawsuits over their reaffirmation practices.

Federated Department Stores, realizing that it, too, had a problem, mounted a pre-emptive strike. "Immediately after hearing about Sears, we investigated our practices," said Carol Sanger, a Federated spokeswoman. It discovered that 17 percent of the 17,000 reaffirmations collected since 1990 had not been filed with courts, she said, so it devised a plan to send refunds totaling \$4.3 million to the 3,000 people affected. "The checks are going out this month," Ms. Sanger said.

There is also likely to be fallout this fall in Washington when Congress is scheduled to consider possible amendments to the bankruptcy law. This harder side of Sears has become Exhibit A for critics who say it is too easy for creditors to bully debtors — especially those without legal help — into giving up their right to a fresh start.

Leading credit-card issuers like Visa International and lawyers who work with them respond that Sears is an aberration. They say current bankruptcy law already makes it too easy for some 1.1 million Americans a year to declare bankruptcy. Fraud is on the rise, they contend, and any new curbs on their ability to bargain with debtors would only make things worse.



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the Financial Times/Standard & Poor's Actuaries World Indices, a measure of stock market performance. The FT Indices are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's, in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and Faculty of Actuaries.

Country	IN U.S. DOLLARS				IN LOCAL CURR.			
	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	Index	Week % Chg.	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank
Australia	234.83	-0.7	16	5.8	20	3.61	211.06	13.6
Austria	203.31	1.8	7	7.1	18	1.74	189.14	24.4
Belgium	252.21	-1.1	18	10.8	16	2.97	230.01	29.0
Brazil	268.43	-14.5	26	41.5	1	1.37	534.22	47.3
Britain	519.93	0.5	13	13.0	14	3.56	283.26	15.5
Canada	219.58	1.1	9	15.7	12	1.67	218.62	16.0
Denmark	414.05	1.9	6	17.6	10	1.33	384.08	36.0
Finland	309.14	3.0	3	25.9	4	1.60	343.27	44.5
France	226.05	-3.2	22	5.8	21	2.46	214.55	22.9
Germany	231.86	2.2	5	22.1	8	1.31	215.94	41.9
Hong Kong	532.87	0.5	12	5.1	22	2.86	530.10	5.3
Indonesia	235.15	-3.5	24	3.0	23	1.79	363.52	9.9
Ireland	374.03	1.3	8	13.7	13	2.73	361.84	28.5
Italy	102.92	2.7	4	23.3	6	1.84	134.12	41.5
Japan	137.32	1.0	11	6.4	19	0.79	100.27	5.8
Malaysia	460.21	-5.2	27	-23.7	26	1.47	466.68	-20.5
Mexico	1,677.76	-3.3	23	37.5	2	1.28	14,524.61	38.3
Netherlands	417.31	-1.2	19	24.1	5	2.03	383.94	44.7
New Zealand	90.03	-5.0	26	-1.9	24	3.96	73.28	6.2
Norway	321.81	0.3	14	8.9	17	1.90	323.27	26.2
Philippines	153.48	7.1	1	-24.6	27	0.88	214.97	-19.5
Singapore	378.09	-2.2	21	-9.9	25	1.19	255.57	-5.6
South Africa	359.61	1.1	10	12.9	15	2.41	358.69	10.2
Spain	258.16	-4.9	25	16.5	11	2.26	292.81	35.1
Sweden	503.50	-1.0	17	19.3	9	1.78	579.77	36.0
Switzerland	314.00	-1.8	20	31.6	3	1.17	286.93	44.5
Thailand	82.20	5.1	2	-35.1	28	4.21	73.50	-22.9
United States	371.41	0.0	15	23.0	7	1.65	371.41	23.0

COMPOSITE INDICES			
Europe	280.24	-0.2	16.9
Pacific Basin	154.76	0.5	4.1
Europe/Pacific	207.15	0.1	11.1
World	261.89	-0.0	16.8

Source: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close.
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CURRENCIES			
Exchange rate	Friday	Last Friday	Week % Chg.
Japanese yen to the U.S. dollar	115.57	114.02	+1.35
German marks to the U.S. dollar	1.7927	1.7744	+1.03
Canadian dollars to the U.S. dollar	1.3748	1.3704	+0.32
U.S. dollars to the British pound	1.6777	1.6946	-0.99

Source: Bloomberg Financial Markets, exchange rates as of Friday's New York close

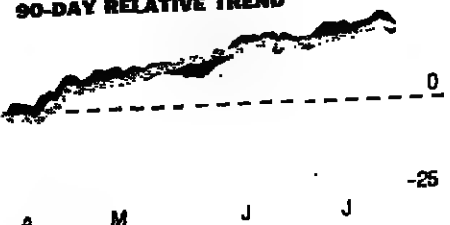
UPS AND DOWNS

July 14-18: The Dow Touches 8,000 and Then Retreats, in the Big Board's Busiest Week Ever

PRICES

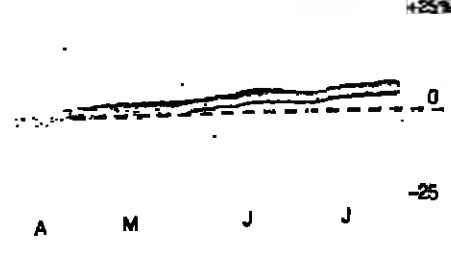
DOMESTIC EQUITIES	
Broad market	Down 0.12%
S. & P. 500 index	915.30
Blue chips	Down 0.40%
Dow 30 industrials	7,890.46
Small capitalization	Up 0.90%
Russell 2000 index	405.89

90-DAY RELATIVE TREND



DOMESTIC BONDS

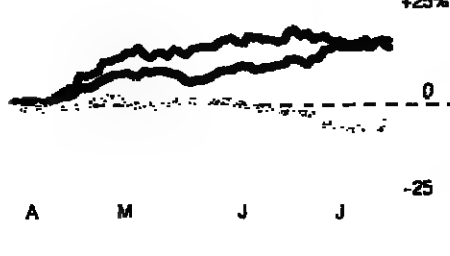
Treasuries	Up 0.10%
Ryan Labs. Total Return	202.52
Municipals	Up 0.57%
Bond Buyer index	121.28
Corporates	Up 0.14%
Merrill Lynch Master index	892.66



AROUND THE WORLD

European stocks	Down 0.23%
F.T.-Actuaries Europe	280.24
Asian stocks	Up 0.49%
F.T.-Actuaries Pacific Basin	154.76
Gold	Up 2.30%
New York cash price	\$329.60

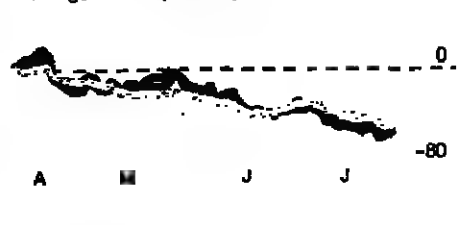
Foreign indexes are given in dollar terms



YIELDS

BONDS	
Long bonds	6.52%
30-year Treasuries	Unchanged
Notes	5.88%
2-year Treasuries	Up 2 basis pts.
Municipals	5.49%
Bond Buyer index	Down 5 basis pts.

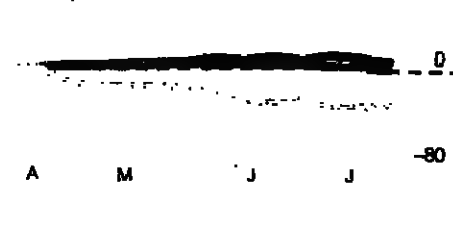
90-DAY RELATIVE TREND



OTHER INVESTMENTS

Money market funds	5.00%
Taxable average	Down 2 basis pts.
Bank C.D.'s	5.20%
1-year small savers	Down 1 basis pt.
Stocks	1.69%
S. & P. 500 dividend yield	Up 1 b.p.

90-DAY RELATIVE TREND



Sources: Bank Rate Monitor, Bloomberg Financial Markets, The Bond Buyer, Datastream, Goldman, Sachs, IBC's Money Fund Report, Merrill Lynch, Standard & Poor's, Ryan Labs

The New York Times

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The Riady Breach

Much still remains unknown about the Riady family of Indonesia, its links to China and its involvement in Bill Clinton's 1996 Presidential campaign. But more than enough information has now been assembled by Senate investigators to see that the Riady role in the campaign is a case study in the uncontrolled uses of tainted money in American politics. Anyone who doubts the urgent need to tighten campaign finance laws, especially those governing "soft money" donations to party organizations, need only look closely at the Riady example.

More than \$1 million has now been traced from the Riady family to the Democrats through various entities, some of them clearly shell companies with scant American assets. Nearly two-thirds of the foreign-related money returned by the Democrats came from this one family's interests. In addition, the Riady family and its retainers waged a marathon lobbying campaign to get their colleague, John Huang, transferred to the Democratic National Committee, where he could tap into Asian and Asian-American sources.

Among those pressing for the hiring of Mr. Huang were James Riady, an Indonesian citizen who holds an American green card, and Joseph Girol, a Riady lobbyist who is a former law partner of Hillary Clinton. Arkansas provides the main link between the Clintons and the Riadys because it was in Little Rock that the Indonesia-based group set up its American operations when Mr. Clinton was the Governor. Once in the Administration, Mr. Huang kept in constant touch with his former employer by using a nearby office at Stephens Inc., a politically connected Arkansas investment company.

Senator Fred Thompson and other Republicans have repeatedly suggested that Mr. Huang was a conduit for Chinese money aimed at influencing the American election. Once placed in sensitive posi-

tions in the Administration and the re-election campaign, Mr. Huang, they suggest, may have passed secrets on to the Riady group and possibly China. Republicans note that Mr. Huang made frequent calls to the Far East and had contacts with the Chinese and other embassies, much to the surprise of one of his superiors at the department.

In Jakarta last week, James Riady told The Wall Street Journal that his ties to China involved "business, pure business." That may be so. Whether China was itself the source of foreign campaign contributions and whether Mr. Huang was engaging in espionage remain central questions for the Thompson committee. Some of the mystery about China's role may be cleared up now that the Senate Intelligence Committee has wisely offered to review the intelligence record and make a public report.

While those questions are explored, it is already clear that Mr. Huang was put in positions for which he was unqualified simply because he was a prodigious fund-raiser. The White House and Democratic Party then deliberately looked the other way when he went about raising money illegally. But at the same time, neither the Republican nor the Democratic committee has the capacity to audit the bank accounts of donors. Absent that power, there is no sure way to tell whether ostensibly legitimate donors are laundering funds from abroad.

In the end, the only way to prevent foreign funds from influencing American elections is to ban unlimited soft-money contributions to the parties. These contributions have no purpose except avoidance of the ceilings on donations to candidates enacted after the Watergate scandal.

The Riadys and Mr. Huang were able to abuse the system because the present one invites abuse. As Congress determines what happened last year, it should also lay the groundwork for legislation to prevent it from happening again.

Dog Days Indeed

Pit bulls have been getting more than their share of headlines in New York this summer. An elderly man died from a heart attack while trying to protect his pet schnauzer from a pit bull who slipped its chain. A teen-ager fell to his death from a roof, apparently while fleeing from a neighbor's scary dog. Housing Authority officials say a girl was badly mauled by a neighbor's pit bull.

Both the Giuliani administration and the Housing Authority are preparing to launch anti-pit bull initiatives. Pit bulls on the streets — even leashed — without licenses will be taken to one of the city's animal shelters. There, owners will have 48 hours to make them legal before the city has the right to euthanize them. For its part, the Housing Authority intends to evict pit bulls and other "vicious and menacing animals."

Animal rights advocates correctly point out that many pit bulls are gentle family pets, while some spaniels and Chihuahuas have the temperament of a velociraptor. The difference is that pit bulls have the ability to carry out their worst intentions, thanks to their extremely powerful jaws.

In New York, a disproportionate number of pit bulls are reared to be attack dogs. The Giuliani administration says pit bulls represent only 4 percent of the licensed dogs in the city but are responsible for a third of all reported dog bites. The city's largest animal shelter says 40 percent of the

dogs brought in because of attack bites are pit bulls.

Ideally, all animal regulations should be applied across the board. But given the limited space at city animal shelters, police and animal workers must be selective in the dogs they target for license checks. The city says its police canine squad will concentrate on pit bulls with signs of being bred for fighting — scars, choke collars, aggressive behavior. That seems like a necessary compromise on the streets. But the Housing Authority should enforce its rules prohibiting all dogs, with exceptions for senior citizen housing and tenants whose doctors state in writing that they need animal companionship for health reasons. While it is unfortunate to deprive families of the chance to have pets, that seems the only reasonable alternative given the overcrowding in the projects and the difficulty in evicting disruptive animals without an overall ban.

Regulating animals is critical in a crowded city but difficult because of the emotions pet issues raise. The Mayor and the Housing Authority should be congratulated for tackling the problem head on. Other politicians who pander to pet owners without considering human safety should be rebuked, beginning with the members of Congress who are attempting to pass legislation giving all families in federally funded housing the right to keep pets. Such a rule might work well in some cities and projects, but it would be a disaster for New York.

Editorial Notebook

The World Resurrects Che

Thirty years after his assassination in the Bolivian mountains, Ernesto (Che) Guevara has captured the public fancy in ways he never intended. At least three biographies and several movies about Che will come out this year. The silk-screen Che icon with beard and beret now hawks compact discs, beer, Swatch watches, skis, designer dresses and a host of other products not traditionally associated with international Communism. Scientists have now found his body, one of seven skeletons in a pit in Bolivia, and brought it to Cuba.

What would a Che alive today make of all this? He might not approve of the more crass commercialization of his name and image, but if the ideological migrations of his comrades are any indication, he would be firmly in the capitalist camp. Unlike his body, Che's politics remain entombed. Armed, leftist revolution is today found only in Cuba, and in a few violent but tiny bands in Colombia, Peru and now Mexico.

In Europe and the United States, Che's image owes its commercial appeal to the absence of political content. Yuppies who would never have worn a Che T-shirt when it could have been taken seriously now find Commie-kitsch hip and ironic. In Latin America, many still admire what they see as Che's idealism. While he was capable of great brutality, to them he was also uncorrupted by power, hapless suffering in his disastrous attempts to foment revolution in the jungles of the Congo or Bolivia than as a bureaucrat in Havana.

But his politics are long gone. The old leftist revolutionaries are now closer to European-style capitalism than anything Che ever preached. Chileans reacted with amusement a few years ago when Carlos Ominami, Economy Minister of the democratic Government that came to power in 1990, proudly announced a record year of foreign investment. Foreign capital was Mr. Ominami's enemy when he was a guerrilla of the Leftist Revolutionary Movement two decades earlier. Chile's revolutionaries are now largely social democrats, as are the vast majority of Latin America's former guerrillas.

But the Latin Left Prefers Helmut Kohl

In Colombia, Venezuela, Guatemala and El Salvador, to name a few countries, guerrillas have come down from the mountains to find reformist political parties, some of which are now indistinguishable from the competition. The Sandinistas in Nicaragua ran in last year's elections on a free-market platform. In Argentina and Uruguay, survivors of guerrilla groups decimated by death squads now support social democratic political movements. All these groups advocate a version of what Jorge Castañeda, a Mexican political scientist, calls "Rhine-land capitalism" — the welfare state, strong unions and high tax burden of Germany today.

The guerrillas have been transformed by time. Middle-class kids are revolutionaries at 20. Middle-class men of 50 are anything but. There is no new generation to succeed them because Latin America, too, has changed. The military dictatorships most of the guerrillas battled gave way to nominal democracy in the 1980's. Even before the Soviet Union collapsed, depriving the armed left of weapons, cash and ideological backing, revolution had proved unsustainable except through the intense repression of Cuba, a model that gave many leftists pause. Since the 1960's, both left and right in Latin America have converged on the goal of what revolutionaries once scornfully derided as bourgeois democracy.

That goal is not yet within sight. While the left's solutions to Latin American poverty and injustice have changed, by many measures the problems are worse today than when Che died. Although the poor form a smaller percentage of the population of Latin America than they did, there are 50 million more Latins living in poverty now than in 1985. The Mexican minimum wage, earned by 17 million people, buys a quarter of what it bought 20 years ago. All that Western Europeans enjoy — like a living wage, the rule of law, access to justice, schools and hospitals — seems as fantastical to most Latins as any revolution Che Guevara ever dreamed up.

TINA ROSENBERG

Shouldn't Lawyers at Least Aspire to Civility?

To the Editor:

It is tiring to hear the childish complaints by lawyers about having to do what is right when other people — doctors, taxi drivers, maître d's — don't have to ("I'm Paid to Be Rude," Op-Ed, July 17). Raoul Lionel Felder is correct that the incivility of lawyers reflects increasing incivility in society generally. But why shouldn't lawyers lead rather than follow?

Mr. Felder criticizes the civility code for lawyers recently proposed by Judith S. Kaye, New York State's chief judge. New York is not the first jurisdiction to propose or adopt such voluntary standards. Yet, does it make sense to have a civility code if there are no penalties for violating it? There is something to be said for aspiring to civility. For lawyers with such tendencies, the code validates their instincts and offers a response to clients seeking scorch-the-earth tactics from their hired guns. Over time the culture of the legal profession may change for the better.

By the way, Mr. Felder seems unaware that the New York Taxi and Limousine Commission already has adopted civility standards for its drivers.

MARJORIE A. SILVER
New York, July 17, 1997
The writer is a professor of law at the Touro Law Center.

Tired of the Bombast

To the Editor:

Raoul Lionel Felder (Op-Ed, July 17) is in serious denial if he claims there is no problem in the way New York lawyers handle themselves. I was a solo litigator for 10 years. I

left the practice in 1990, largely because of the table pounding, lies and bombast of many of my adversaries. I found that about one in four litigators follows the rule, "If you don't have the facts or the law on your side, attack the other lawyer personally."

Since 1990 I have been an executive in the software industry — a profession both more courteous and more creative than the practice of law.

JONATHAN WALLACE
Brooklyn, July 17, 1997

Dialing the Doctor

To the Editor:

Raoul Lionel Felder (Op-Ed, July 17) asks, "If the civility police insist on monitoring grown-up professionals, why not first adopt a code for doctors who do not return calls to patients who are ill or waiting for medical test results?"

Such codes already exist. Unlike lawyers, doctors do not receive compensation for time spent on the telephone, yet they are bound morally, ethically and legally to return calls to their patients. If Mr. Felder's doctor does not return his call, he can choose another doctor or complain to the state's medical society, or he can sue his doctor in court for negligence and abandonment.

CHI-MAN LO, M.D.
Scarsdale, N.Y., July 17, 1997

Public Doesn't Care

To the Editor:

Raoul Lionel Felder (Op-Ed, July 17), a divorce lawyer, writes that a proposed code of civility will not remedy the suffering reputation of

lawyers. He is correct when he says that the public cares little, if at all, how lawyers treat their adversaries. But the public should care how lawyers perform. To improve their withering reputation, lawyers must improve their integrity and quality of performance.

PETER SIVIGLIA
New York, July 17, 1997
The writer is a lawyer.

Judges Have a Code

To the Editor:

When New York State's chief administrative judge recently promulgated standards for judges that included courtesy and work-ethics accountability, no hue and cry erupted from the legal fraternity. Now, when Judith S. Kaye, the state's top judge, proposes a comparable code for lawyers, Raoul Lionel Felder chafes (Op-Ed, July 17).

MATTHEW KAPLOWITZ
New York, July 17, 1997

Look to the British

To the Editor:

Raoul Lionel Felder (Op-Ed, July 17) personifies the reasons that lawyers have a poor reputation. By establishing precedent, lawyers in court argue for all of us, to some extent, not just for their clients.

Alien as the British courtroom tradition, with its wigs and jargon, may seem to Americans. It does remind the participants of the gravity and dignity of the occasion. Dignity: now that's a word the American Bar Association would do well to instill in its members.

PETER SCHMIDT
Ithaca, N.Y., July 17, 1997

Don't Blame Pill-Pushing Doctors for Mania Over Dieting

To the Editor:

"Dieting Dangerously" (Op-Ed, July 14) is thin on fact. According to Richard Klein, the "real problem is that doctors see obesity as an epidemic." But a recent study in the New England Journal of Medicine concluded that most doctors don't consider the advice to avoid excess calories to be as important as it was in 1981. Only a few opportunists in our profession become pill servers without regard for long-term risks.

It is not the "medicalization of fat" that leads people to diet but our fashion-magazine, movie-star culture, where fit is better.

True fitness, however, also happens to be healthier. The problem is that few know how to cook delicious low-fat, plant-based meals. Fitness doesn't fit into anyone's lunch quarter-hour. And often, when spirits are down, we eat. These are the real reasons for obesity. If doctors had better tools to motivate patients to eat out of hunger, not depression, obesity would become a treatable disease to which doctors would properly attend.

JOHN LA PUMA, M.D.
Elk Grove Village, Ill., July 14, 1997
The writer is director of cooking, healthy eating and fitness at the Alexian Brothers Medical Center.

Smoking to Stay Thin

To the Editor:

"The Fearful Price of Getting Thin" (Week in Review, July 13)

Democrats Lead the Way on Campaign Reform

To the Editor:

Re "Open the China File" and "Sketching the Money Machine" (editorials, July 16 and 17):

I was deeply disturbed by how you characterized the approach of the Democratic National Committee and the White House toward the campaign finance hearings as a "whoops-sorry-about-that" defense. The Democratic Party's highest priority is to go beyond what is merely required in complying with all Federal election rules.

When allegations surfaced last fall



chronicles some of the more notable disasters in our march toward bodily perfection.

It neglects cigarettes, however, and the many who smoked for years because it was a proven alternative to eating.

The real villain is the notion that only perfect bodies are acceptable. Women, and to a lesser extent men, will always be willing to risk their lives and well-being for any hope of true happiness: the perfect body. The incidence of anorexia and bulimia shows this problem will be with us a long time if we don't change our attitudes.

DONNA MOOG
St. Louis, July 13, 1997

Woolworth's Counters Symbolized Segregation

To the Editor:

Perhaps the front-page photograph of a Woolworth lunch counter in 1954 was intended to conjure up warm feelings of nostalgia ("Woolworth Gives Up on the Five-and-Dime," July 18).

But for many of us the lunch counters of the Woolworth chain, which has announced that it will close its remaining 400 stores, are a symbol of an era when African-Americans were denied the simple pleasure of a cup of coffee or a grilled cheese sandwich.

In 1960, four students from the predominantly black North Carolina Agricultural and Technical College challenged the Jim Crow custom at a Woolworth lunch counter in Greensboro, setting off a chain of protests across the state.

If the lunch counters are a symbol of anything positive, it is their inglorious role in a movement that eventually changed America for the better.

ELAINE RAY
Palo Alto, Calif., July 18, 1997

The Times welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. Those selected may be shortened for space reasons. Fax letters to (212) 556-3622 or send by electronic mail to letters@nytimes.com, or by regular mail to Letters to the Editor, The New York Times, 229 West 43d Street, New York, N.Y. 10036-3959.

about the possibility that the D.N.C. had accepted improper contributions, an independent review was immediately conducted. We admitted that we had made mistakes, and we established the most extensive compliance program ever by a political party.

In addition, we instituted several new procedures, including a policy of not accepting any contribution of more than \$200 unless the address, occupation and employer of the donor is provided or can be identified. This goes well beyond current Federal Election Commission rules that simply require parties to use their "best efforts" to obtain this information. When we file our next report to the commission later this month, we will make all contributor information available to the public in electronic form.

We have repeatedly asked the Republican National Committee to join us in eliminating soft money from politics. The Republicans have repeatedly rejected this challenge.

Money plays too important a role in politics today. The Democratic National Committee urges all members of Congress to join the Democratic Party in working toward meaningful campaign finance reform.

ROY ROMER
General Chairman
Democratic National Committee
Washington, July 18, 1997

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Managed Care Slows Medical Research

To the Editor:

Consumers seem to be having second thoughts about the effects of managed care, as reflected by the large number of proposals in the California Legislature for tighter government regulation (front page, July 14).

The health-care delivery system and its uncontrolled costs are badly in need of reform. However, academic medical institutions are being disproportionately affected. Market-driven managed care is having a devastating effect on the country's biomedical training and research infrastructure. An article in the July 16 Journal of the American Medical Association describes a study that found a reduced rate of research at institutions in states with the most people in managed care.

These consequences of managed care — a decrease in the quality of health care and the pace of scientific discovery — may not be seen immediately, but they will become evident 5 or 10 years down the road. If managed care continues in its current fashion, our leadership in medical training and research will be vulnerable. By the time this is apparent to the American people, it will be too late.

JEFFREY A. LIEBERMAN, M.D.
Chapel Hill, N.C., July 18, 1997
The writer is vice chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Stealth Art

To the Editor:

The impasse over financing for the National Endowment for the Arts (news article, July 16) calls for an innovative solution. In April our arts group, the Seattle-based N.E.A. Army, submitted a grant proposal to the endowment requesting all of its current budget of \$99.5 million to purchase the maximum possible portion of a B-2 Stealth bomber. We propose to plant this one-twentieth of an airplane on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., next to a plaque that reads "Priorities."

TIM GIERE
Seattle, July 16, 1997

Ralph Nader

Norman J. Ornstein

Peace and prosperity

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Good times mean

Good times mean

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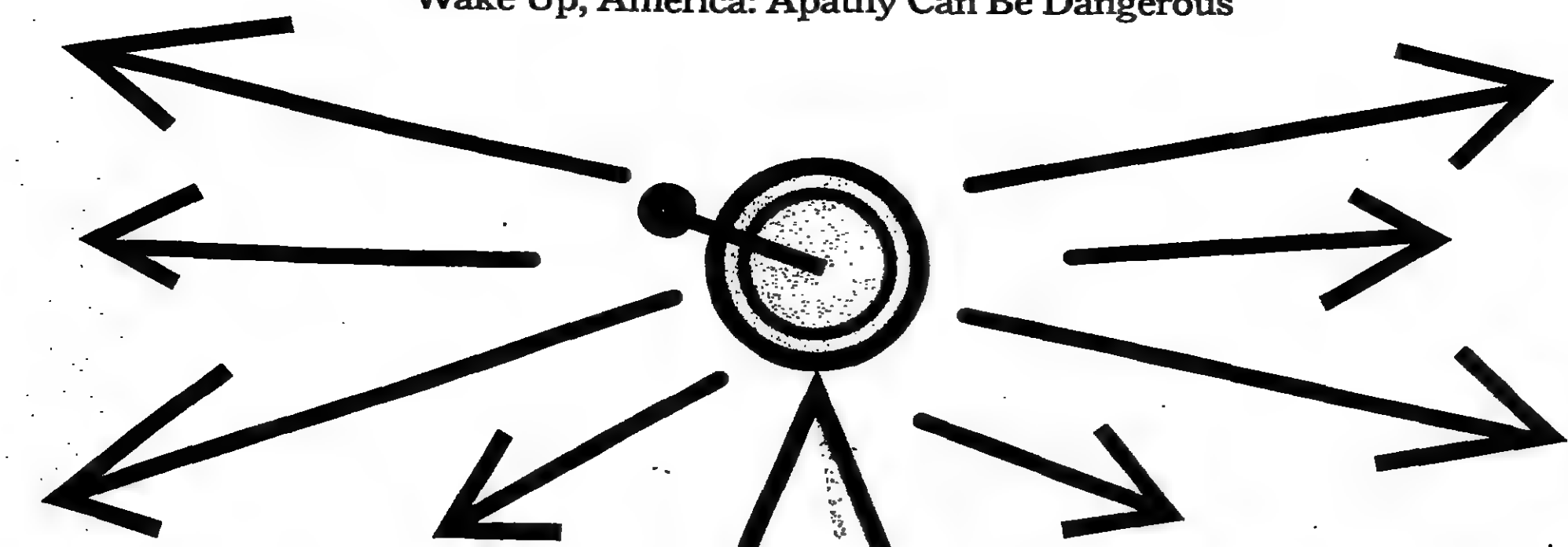
Good times mean

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The Beltway Talks Back

Wake Up, America: Apathy Can Be Dangerous



Unless the heat has warped our memory, it was only a couple of years ago that Americans were so mad at Washington there could have been a new Congressional election every month. Today, the cry of "throw the bums out" is seldom heard, and the people storming the ramparts of the Capitol are mostly the usual suspects looking to cut the usual deals.

John Huang had ties to a company with ties to the Chinese Government while raising millions of dollars for the Democrats? The loyalists whom Newt Gingrich had taken to his bosom tried to ace him out? What does any of this have to do with the price of a double-decaficed mocha latte?

The reason for this complacency, according to the polls, is that most Americans believe the country as a whole and they themselves are better off than at any time since who knows when. But boredom with government is a threat to the people's long-term interests, including people who make a living saying things like "boredom with government is a threat to the people's long-term interests" — the experts, pundits, gurus and others known collectively as the Beltway insiders.

A few leading commentators and others were asked to explain once again just why all good citizens must get serious. Here are their responses:

Ralph Nader is the author of "No Contest: Corporate Lawyers and the Perversion of Justice in America."

Strange, isn't it, that thousands of corporate lobbyists are actually excited about what is going on in Washington. For they are pushing legislation to limit or eliminate their liability for their corporate crime, fraud and abuse against citizens and investors whom they injure. These corporate interests use Orwellian language to call their bills "tort reform," "securities reform," "regulatory reform" and "banking reform."

Should these measures pass, you will pay more and have less recourse to justice, and health and safety standards will be weaker and less vigorously enforced.

On another front, more of your tax dollars will go to huge corporate welfare programs and giveaways (\$70 billion worth of public airwaves to existing TV broadcasters, for instance) if people do not back the politicians — both liberals and conservatives — who are fighting in Congress to end these boondoggles.

Stay bored and government becomes more of an instrument of the rich and powerful against the rest of America. Get active with your fellow citizens and you might just see more government of, by and for the people.

Norman J. Ornstein is resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute.

Peace and prosperity: great developments for the country, but tough going for politicians and pundits. Good times mean complacency

among voters; combine that feeling with the underlying cynicism about politics, and it is no wonder that, outside the Beltway, events in Washington are even less compelling than they were in the halcyon days of cold war tension and economic turmoil.

The benign neglect of Washington has been fed by a sense that President Clinton, Speaker Newt Gingrich and the Senate majority leader, Trent Lott, have found ways to cut deals to make modest changes that steer the nation in the right direction.

Their ability to keep the process on track has been admirable, but it is plenty tenuous. The very lack of outside threat or internal crisis leaves a vacuum that has been filled by often vicious partisan bickering and ideological warfare that could, if unchecked, poison the atmosphere enough to make further compromise and action impossible.

"So what?" you ask. Times will not always be good. If we continue to make small but tangible progress in areas from Medicare reform to expanding free trade to campaign finance reform, we can prevent pain and dislocation down the road when we can least afford it.

David Gergen is editor at large of U.S. News & World Report.

People are so bored with Washington, says my friend Mark Shields, that they are turning off C-SPAN in favor of the Weather Channel. True enough, but there's much about our long-term future that needs attention.

Beyond the obvious lack of nerve in reforming Social Security and cleaning up campaign finance, we seem unable to figure out what can be done to rebuild American families. The past 40 years have witnessed the largest collapse of family life in recorded history — and it won't be repaired with V-chips and \$500 tax credits.

Meanwhile, much of Washington is also strangely silent on the disasters unfolding in public universities in California and Texas — and soon to appear elsewhere — as affirmative action is thrown out. Racial preferences are no longer sustainable politically, but a return to segregation would be even worse. Clearly, we need to pursue much stronger efforts at remediation in secondary school.

On a wholly different front, we are shortchanging one of our most vital long-term investments: basic scientific research. Federal spending has dropped four years in a row and is still heading down. To allow a continued deterioration would compromise prospects for our security, economy and quality of life.

Marian Wright Edelman is president of the Children's Defense Fund.

Congress and President Clinton have a historic opportunity to address a shameful and solvable problem shared by 10 million uninsured children, most of whom live with working parents. The House-Senate conference committee will soon decide whether to adopt a Senate plan

to insure at least six million children with good benefits.

The Senate plan is partly financed by a 20-cent tobacco tax that would curb teen-age smoking and save hundreds of thousands of lives. The inferior House plan leaves the door open for special interests to raid the child health fund and gives no assurance that a single child will actually receive coverage.

Every American must speak out for our children's health so that special interests like Big Tobacco are not the only voices our lawmakers hear.

Lynne Cheney is former chairwoman of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

One reason that people outside the Beltway should care about what's going on there is that Washington can render state efforts moot. Consider "whole math" instruction, which has been making its way into schools for several years. The idea is that mathematics is a natural activity that students will invent procedures for if only they are given mathematically rich problems to solve.

Parents concerned that this idea will prove destructive are working to be sure that states require instruction in basic skills. They've made headway, but the Administration could reverse it. The national math test for eighth graders being planned for 1999 could easily overwhelm state efforts, and it is being shaped entirely by advocates of the "whole math" approach.

Arianna Huffington is chairwoman of the Center for Effective Compassion.

A very important piece of legislation — the charitable tax credit — is getting scant attention in Washington. The proposal would allow families to give up to \$1,000 of what they owe in taxes to a poverty-fighting charity of their choice. Not only would it provide billions of dollars for effective grass-roots groups but it would also strengthen the frail bonds of community.

In the course of deciding what group to support, citizens would have the opportunity to become more involved in the lives of those in need. And the charitable tax credit would establish a hierarchy of charitable priorities at a time when both political parties have tragically neglected the crisis of poverty and violence in our inner cities.

Kevin Phillips is editor and publisher of American Political Report and author, most recently, of "Arrogant Capital."

For voters to ignore Washington's corruption hearings because Congress won't pass meaningful reform anyway is sagacity, not apathy.

Besides, Washington is never the nation's prime focus near the peak of a financial boom and stock market bubble — not in the early 1890's, not in the late 1920's and not now. That's true even though money's corruption of politics often tops out close to

other peaks of the money culture — the record-setting Dow and the economists' announcement of the end of the business cycle. When (and if) the bubble pops, voters will get involved with a vengeance.

Michael Mandelbaum is the author of "NATO Expansion: A Bridge to the Nineteenth Century."

As Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic received invitations to enter NATO, and American officials assured Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania that they, too, could join, one feature of NATO expansion received less attention than it deserves: the price tag for Americans.

Upgrading the military establishments of the new members and sending Western troops to the territories of the three Baltic countries to protect them from their huge neighbor, Russia, could cost hundreds of billions of dollars. The new members cannot pay; the Western Europeans will not pay.

So Americans would foot the bill, requiring higher taxes, less social spending, abandoning a balanced budget, or all three. All Americans should care about that.

Zbigniew Brzezinski was national security adviser to President Jimmy Carter.

Three issues deserve public attention; each, if mismanaged, could affect every American's pocketbook and even cost American lives.

The first involves Europe. By widening NATO, we can reduce the chances of new intra-European conflicts. Otherwise, Americans could soon find themselves again engaged in European bloodshed.

The Middle East cries for more engagement by the United States in the stalemated Israeli-Palestinian peace process. Renewed conflict could quickly ignite a major energy crisis.

Last but not least, a more powerful China is emerging, while America's relationship with that awakening giant is in a state of drift. By portraying China already as our enemy, some commentators are engaging in a self-fulfilling prophecy.

In brief, ignorance is not bliss.

Vinnie Rosario is a bartender at The Capital Grille.

As the economy has heated up, Washington has seen a revival of 80's indulgence with a 50's retro twist, demonstrated by the unusual number of martinis, cigars and steaks being ordered at The Capital Grille when Congress is in session.

And over the hustle and bustle of bar interaction, the old jokes can be heard, like, "How many politicians does it take to screw in a light bulb?" The most timely response these days, though, is, "They'd immediately form a committee to determine the most effective way to meet the challenges of this great task."

What does all this mean for the rest of America? Hey, a bartender never reveals his secrets. □

Essay

WILLIAM SAFIRE

The Stephens 'Drop'

A "drop," in spookspeak, is a clandestine place to deposit and receive documents. A "dead drop" can be a hole in a tree; an ordinary drop can be an office or friend's house where an operative can leave or pick up data without the knowledge of employer or family.

John Huang's drop was conveniently across the street from his Government office. It was a room in a suite rented by Stephens Inc., part of the Little Rock financial empire from which flowed the millions in loans that saved the 1992 Clinton campaign. The Riady family of Indonesia, whose Lippo Group put Huang in a top-secret spot in the Clinton Administration, did a lot of business with Jackson Stephens.

At informative Thompson committee hearings last week, we learned that Huang, Lippo's man at Clinton Commerce, received a call on the average of twice a week from a secretary at the Stephens drop who was instructed not to leave her boss's name. Huang would then cross the street to pick up and send express

Huang's home away from home.

packages and use the Stephens phone.

We know that Huang spoke to former Lippo associates at least 237 times in his 14 months at his sensitive trade post. "That number troubles me," said Senator Joseph Lieberman. The Connecticut Democrat was further troubled to learn that "the 237 do not include any calls made from the visitors' office at Stephens Inc."

Hard evidence that Huang spoke to the Lippo conduit to China practically every day came on top of testimony from a security-unconscious C.I.A. that Huang (whose 67 visits to the Clinton White House and 6 to the Chinese Embassy set a world record for mid-level bureaucrats) was shown raw intelligence data on 37 occasions by his personal C.I.A. "briefer."

This included a top-secret assessment of the leadership succession in China from a U.S. agent whose life would be forfeited if the raw data blew his cover. How would you like to be a C.I.A. agent in the field whose unfettered filing is shown to a Clintonite who talks every day to the Lippo partners of the Chinese Government?

Senator Thompson is getting traction despite John Glenn and his defensive partisans. First Glenn was suckered into Huang's immunity stunt. Next, Glenn accused Thompson of playing "loose" with F.B.I. evidence of China's penetration plan, then had to sheepishly admit his mistake. If see-no-evil Glenn were a Republican, White House spinmeisters would Burtonize him.

The Senate's steady building of a case should shame lethargic Justice investigators. Questions:

Has the Public Integrity section of Justice obtained records from Fedex and other private mail services to determine who sent the thick envelopes delivered to Huang at his Stephens drop?

Has Justice taken all overseas and Canadian phone numbers called by Huang from his home, cell phone, Commerce and D.N.C. offices — and matched them with all numbers dialed from the Stephens office?

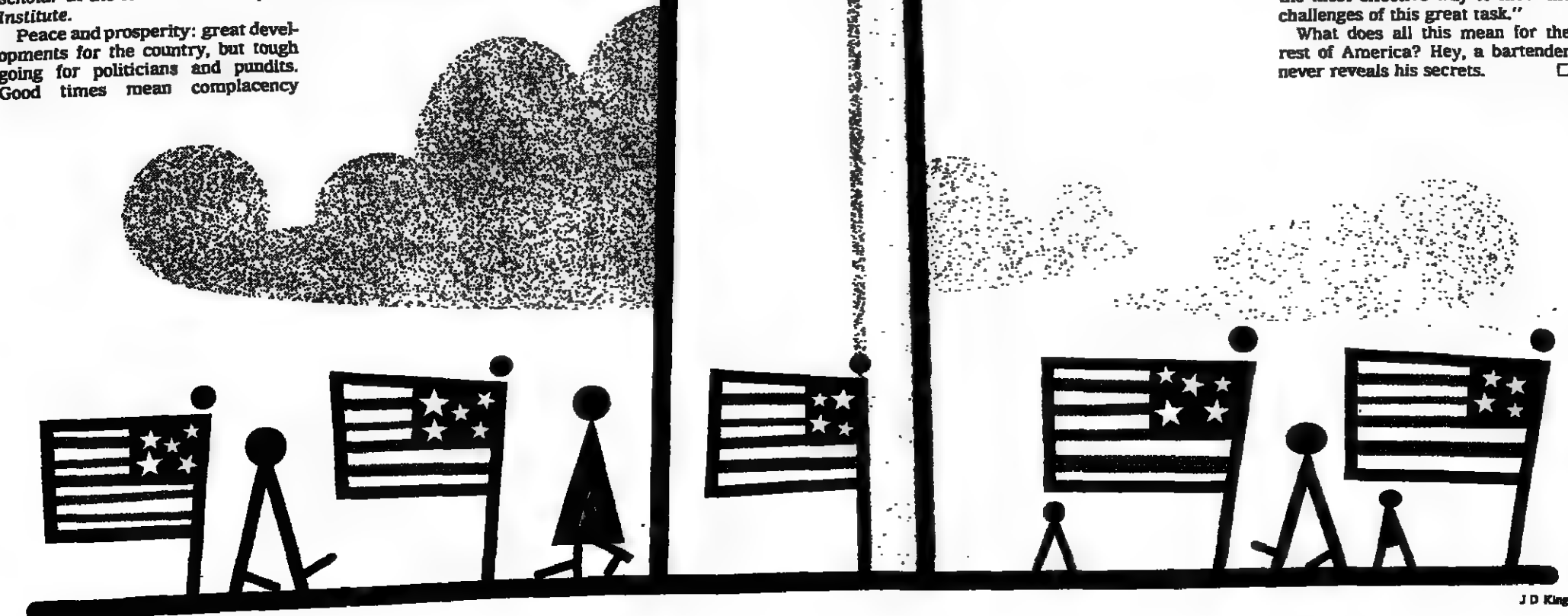
Has the F.B.I. interviewed Vice President Gore about his meeting at a \$300,000 Santa Monica fund-raiser on Sept. 27, 1994, with Shen Juern, chairman of China Resources? Does Justice know that Shen was Beijing's partner with Lippo in a Hong Kong bank notorious as a front for Chinese espionage?

In that regard, Thompson released a letter from Huang effusively thanking Jack Quinn, then Gore's chief of staff, for meeting with Huang and Shen three days before that California fund-raiser. Has the Justice Department with its 40 assigned F.B.I. agents — eight months into its investigation — asked Gore or Quinn about the Shen contacts?

The disarming answer to that last one is no. Quinn tells me he remembers nothing about either meeting: "My surmise is that I just greeted them." But the stunner is that nobody has yet interviewed or deposed him about it. The forgetful Quinn, who later served as White House Counsel, has laudably not skipped the country or taken the Fifth — but investigators leave him unquestioned.

Where is all this leading? Here's my theory: for five years, money from Asia has been flowing into the Clinton campaigns, and for five years, information and policy accommodations have been flowing out of the Clinton Administration to Asian governments.

As money moved from the East and data moved from the West, Lippo — with its operatives in Washington, Little Rock, Jakarta and Hong Kong — was the broker, the middleman or, in intelligence lingo, the "cutout." □



THE ARTS

A Dying Filmmaker's Last Journey Into the Heart of Cuba

By LARRY ROHTER

MIAMI — TOMÁS GUTIÉRREZ ALEA was already ill with the cancer that would soon kill him when he made "Strawberry and Chocolate," the bittersweet comedy that in 1995 became the first Cuban film to go into general release in the United States and be nominated for an Oscar. So when the success of that movie led to other offers, he understood from the start that he had received a rare gift: a final opportunity to sum up a lifetime of work and ideas.

The result is "Guantanamera," which opens Friday and addresses, not surprisingly, the twin themes of love and death. Delineating the odyssey of a dead woman's body and the friends and relatives who accompany her coffin from one end of Cuba to the other, the movie manages to ridicule the rigid Stalinist bureaucracy that was one of Gutiérrez Alea's favorite targets (though not to the extent desired by his exiled compatriots here) even as it exalts human attachments and passion.

"All of Titón's movies are a mixture of love, tenderness and acid humor," Mirtha Ibarra, the Cuban actress who is Gutiérrez Alea's widow and appears in both "Guantanamera" and "Strawberry and Chocolate," said during an interview here, using the nickname for her husband by which he was known in Cuba. "But this one, may be especially so because of the circumstances under

which it was made."

Born into a well-to-do Havana family, Gutiérrez Alea, who was 69 when he died last year, originally studied to be a lawyer. But the films of the Italian neo-realist movement captured his imagination, and he went to Italy in the early 1950's to learn about movie making. His international reputation was established by "Memories of Underdevelopment," which was released in 1968 and chronicles a bourgeois intellectual's difficulties in adapting to life in a revolutionary society. But within Cuba, he was probably best known for sly satires like "Death of a Bureaucrat," a 1966 work that foretold "Guantanamera" in both theme and style.

In fact, when "Guantanamera," which takes its title from the famous Cuban ballad and reworks the song's lyrics so that it comments on the plot, was shown in Havana in 1995, audiences flocked to theaters to see it, fearing that it would soon be withdrawn from circulation. They chuckled at the figure of Adolfo, a pompous bureaucrat whose every utterance is a stale cliché of revolutionary sacrifice taken straight from the pages of Granma, the official newspaper of the Cuban Communist Party, and roared at the misadventures that befall the corpse because of an absurd Government plan to make burials more efficient.

Working with Gutiérrez Alea "was a privilege on both the professional and personal levels," Juan Carlos Tabio, who because of the director's illness became co-director of both

"Strawberry and Chocolate" and "Guantanamera," said from his home in Havana. "He was the master of modern Cuban cinema, and part of what made him so was his flexibility and his spirit of criticism and self-criticism."

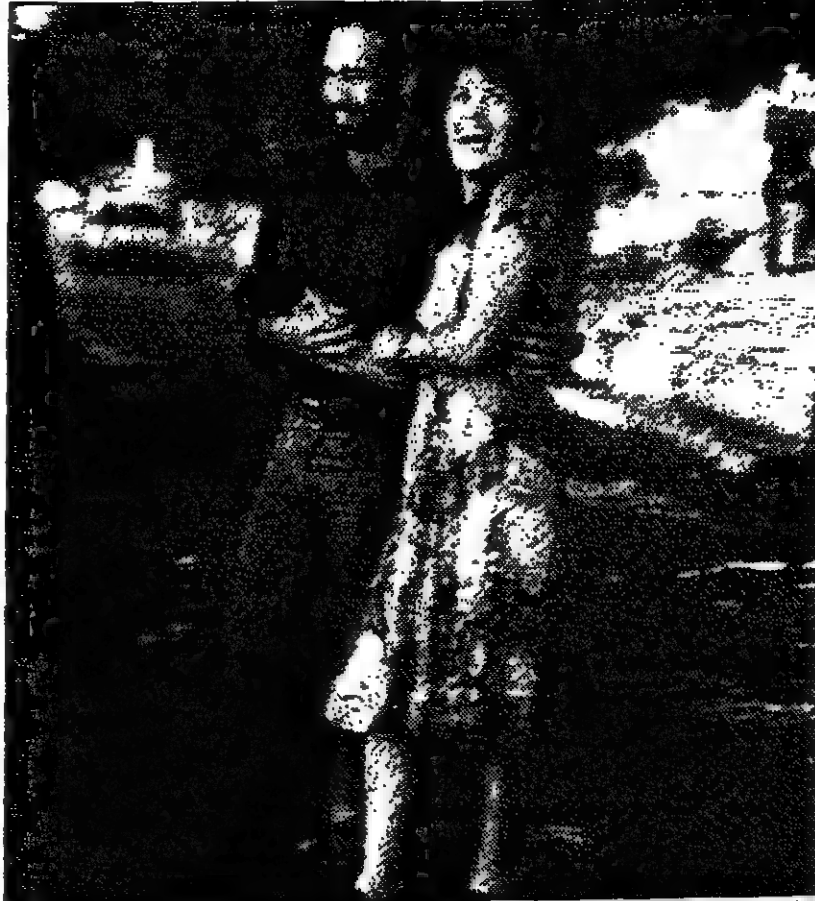
"We knew each other for more than 30 years and had a relationship that was profound but hard to explain," Mr. Tabio continued. "He worked with me in one way or another on every project I've ever done. It's not that Titón was able to find some sort of philosopher's stone that eluded the rest of us. But he had the strength to accept reality and tackle that reality in his work."

In fact, as bizarre as the plot of "Guantanamera" may seem, it was born, the director's widow said, of a newspaper story Gutiérrez Alea clipped in the late 1980's, when Cuba's shortage of gasoline was becoming acute. To save fuel, Communist Party bureaucrats had actually devised a plan that would require coffins to be transferred from one vehicle to another any time the boundary of a province was crossed, in order that no province exceed its gasoline quota. To that idea, Gutiérrez Alea added, as was his habit, observations from his own notebook and snippets of dialogue heard on the streets of Havana.

"When this movie came out in Europe, they thought it was a comedy of the absurd," Ms. Ibarra said. "But it's not. It is a comedy drawn from reality, an X-ray of the island of Cuba."

Indeed, anyone who has traveled the length of Cuba in recent years will quickly recognize scenes from daily life that Gutiérrez Alea reproduces almost intact: the eerie absence of traffic on the highways; the families that wait for hours and hours for buses that never come, then crowd into the back of the rare passing truck; the flourishing illegal roadside commerce in meat and vegetables, which are bought and sold in American dollars, not Cuban pesos. "Guantanamera," in short, is a road movie that shows a society dispirited and in decay.

BUT MANY CUBAN DIRECTORS and screenwriters now in exile in the United States, including several who say they still regard Gutiérrez Alea as a mentor or friend, argue that in "Guantanamera," as in his earlier



Jorge Perugorria and Mirtha Ibarra, in "Guantanamera."

C.F. Distribution

movies, he compromises his principles and does not go far enough in showing the Cuban system's faults. Sergio Giral, who defected to the United States six years ago and has recently directed a documentary about the Cuban cinema called "The Broken Image," is one of them.

"Titón was a filmmaker and intellectual who sought in every way to use the means of expression at his disposal to question the system," Mr. Giral said in an interview here. "But he fell into a trap and was never really able to do any damage to that system, which is inhumane. In Cuba there are no films that really dispute the system, because the Government will never permit it. When something critical is released, it comes out too late and thus is no longer critical. It has lost its value, which is precisely why it is allowed to come out."

Jorge Ulla, a Cuban filmmaker who now lives in New York, also has mixed feelings about Gutiérrez Alea. "To me, he is a tragic figure," said Mr. Ulla. "He was a great narrator and storyteller, a shrewd critic who

created a vast body of work that shows a fine intelligence. But he couldn't, or wouldn't, talk about the real problem, which is intolerance. In the final analysis, this is a man who was torn between his Socialist convictions and his reservations about the figure of Fidel Castro. Once embarked on this revolutionary adventure, he was unable to break with it, and that limited his message and his work."

Politely but firmly, Ms. Ibarra refused to be drawn into any discussion of the political controversy surrounding her husband's work.

"I don't see why I should have to do that," she said. "If I were an actress from another country, you wouldn't even be asking me such questions." But she rejected outright the notion that Gutiérrez Alea had ever softened his message or sacrificed his integrity as an artist in order to please the authorities.

"Titón was honest and always said what he wanted to say," she said. "He believed in many of the values of the revolution, and defended them."

Besides, censorship is relative. In your country, the producer gets the final cut. That's censorship, too, and Titón never had to contend with that."

To Ms. Ibarra, "Guantanamera" is first and foremost an elegy, a work of art rather than a political statement. "This movie is a song in praise of life and love," she said. "That's what he wanted; he was very clear about that. He knew this was going to be his last movie, that death was there, within reach, waiting for him. So he wanted to deepen his sense of life, and speak out in favor of awakening and living one's life intensely."

"Guantanamera" reunites Ms. Ibarra with one of her fellow cast members in "Strawberry and Chocolate," Jorge Perugorria, who played the role of the homosexual Diego, who strikes up an unlikely friendship with a fervent Communist who is heterosexual. This time out, Mr. Perugorria is cast as Mariano, a macho, bearded truck driver who has a girlfriend at every stop along the road. Ms. Ibarra, in turn, exchanged her role as a conniving but earthy black marketeer for that of an economics professor trapped in an unhappy marriage.

"That was deliberate," Ms. Ibarra said. "After 'Strawberry and Chocolate' became a success and the Spanish came in as co-producers for 'Guantanamera,' one condition they set was that both of us, Jorge and me, be in the movie. So Titón said, 'Let's reverse the roles.' So we revised the script and revised the characters."

Gutiérrez Alea left behind at least two scripts that Ms. Ibarra says are "ready to be filmed this instant." One is a Caribbean version of "The Tempest." The other, written with Mr. Tabio and a Cuban playwright, is called "Weekend in Bahia" and is essentially, said Mr. Tabio, "a dialogue for two characters, a Cuban woman who returns on a visit from the United States and the fiancé left behind whom she re-encounters."

"Even before he became ill, Titón worried about time getting away from him, that there was not enough time at hand to accomplish everything he wanted to do," Ms. Ibarra said. "But those last five years were happy years, despite the cancer. They were rich, intense years in which he enjoyed everything. He painted and he listened to music. But it was the cinema he loved most of all and which fused all the artistic restlessness he had."



The director Tomás Gutiérrez Alea with his wife, the actress Mirtha Ibarra, on the set of "Strawberry and Chocolate" in 1993.

In 'Contact,' Science and Fiction Nudge Together

By JOHN NOBLE WILFORD

WHAT IS ELMER FUDD doing in a serious movie about astronomers and the search for extraterrestrial life? The answer is revealing of the attention to small details that gives the new movie "Contact" the texture of authenticity when it comes to science. Perhaps only a handful of astronomers caught the in-joke, but it reassured them that the filmmakers had done their homework.

The premise of "Contact" is that a civilization somewhere deep in space is broadcasting a cryptic radio message. At the moment the message is intercepted here on Earth, the intense young astronomer Dr. Eleanor (Ellie) Arroway, played by Jodie Foster, wants to be absolutely sure. "What do the FUDD's say?" she asks. That is the acronym for the follow-up detection device, a specialized receiver used by real-life astronomers searching for life in space to confirm that a detected intelligent signal is in fact genuine.

After confirmation by FUDD, Ellie kisses the computer screen. "Thank you, Elmer," she says. Astronomers who have seen the movie are impressed by how, on a scientific level, it is remarkably faithful to the spirit, strategy and techniques of the quest known by another acronym: SETI, for the search for extraterrestrial intelligence. They give the film high marks for authenticity, at least in its first half. When it shifts to the frantic public and political reaction to the discovery and the launching of an intergalactic spaceship built to alien instructions, the movie becomes far more speculative.

But there really are SETI scientists like Ellie. They are passionate about their vision that life exists elsewhere in the universe and may well be sending out radio signals. Since 1960, they have often run up against the scoffing skepticism of other scientists. Compared with the people who are looking for past microbes on Mars, they have had to beg and plead for telescope time and a little money to support their research.

After starting a more ambitious and systematic program in 1992, SETI came under attack by conservative congressmen, whose withering ridicule forced the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to withdraw its financial support. Now the SETI Institute in Mountain View,

Calif., operates a reduced search program with money from foundations and private donors. In the movie, generous backing for the quest comes not from the Government but from an enigmatic megabillionaire, S.R. Hadden (John Hurt), vaguely modeled after Howard Hughes.

The movie is also true to the romance of looking into the night sky and dreaming of other inhabited

Do astronomers really listen for signs of extraterrestrial life? You better believe it.

worlds. When Ellie stands in awe at the giant radio telescope at Arecibo, P.R., she speaks of the innumerable stars in the galaxy and the prospect that some of them also have planets with intelligent life. No matter that astronomers quibble about some of the numbers she recites; one can hear echoes of the late Carl Sagan's fervent book, lectures and television tours of the heavens. Which is understandable, because the movie is based on a novel by Sagan, who advised the filmmakers up until a few weeks before his death last December.

"I think Carl would have been proud of the movie," Robert Zemeckis, the director of "Contact," said recently in an interview.

Another true note is the movie's brief but careful explanation of the scientific rationale for such a quest. In this case, one is listening to Frank Drake. A longtime colleague of Sagan at Cornell University, Dr. Drake, now a professor at the University of California at Santa Cruz, pioneered SETI in 1960 and formulated equations that guide other searches.

Perhaps the movie's cleverest bit of verisimilitude, although many viewers may be troubled by the ethics of it, is an "appearance" by President Clinton. He never got within miles of the set, of course. But through filmmaking tricks like the ones Mr. Zemeckis used in "Forrest Gump," Mr. Clinton's face and a real

sound bite are incorporated in a fictional cabinet meeting.

His words about the profound implications of such a discovery are actually those recorded when he learned last August of the news that scientists had found possible evidence of early microbial life in a meteorite from Mars.

ANYONE FAMILIAR WITH SETI, however, will recognize a few serious lapses, which are the result not of ignorance so much as the exercise of cinematic license. The most apparent one is the scene at the moment when the radio message from the Vega constellation is detected. In the movie, this occurs at the Very Large Array, a network of 27 huge dish-shaped radio antennas in the desert near Socorro, N.M. It is a visually impressive place, high-tech ears cocked to the heavens against a backdrop of mountains.

But SETI scientists never use these antennas. They perform miracles of observation, gathering radio waves from distant galaxies, but they are not suited to SETI's purposes. For one thing, the search would require 27 separate specially designed receivers, and the program's finances can barely afford one.

Another unrealistic aspect of this scene is having Ellie sitting out in the desert by one of the antennas, wearing earphones and holding a small computer in her lap. No way. She would be in the control room, and she would not be picking up a telltale signal with a headset. A SETI receiver would be monitoring 28 million channels, processing signals through a computer and then displaying possible radio messages on a screen.

"You don't listen on headphones," said Seth Shostak, a staff scientist at the SETI Institute. "Your ear is not as good as the computer looking for very weak signals."

Mr. Zemeckis said he knew that astronomers could not actually hear such a radio wave. "I had to take license here," he said. "It's only a romantic image."

Such scientific lapses and liberties are rare in the movie. "The number of errors I picked up you could count on the fingers of one hand," Dr. Shostak said.

For confirmation, check it out with Elmer Fudd. □

ROCK TOUR DOUBLE BILLS

By RICH NORRIS / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

1 Favorite Degas subject

8 Believe

11 ——— Ball

15 It often has its arms out front

18 Gorged oneself

19 Classified

21 "Windsor Forest" poet

22 Dinner offerings

24 Services, in a way

25 "Mr. Basketball" Holman et al.

26 Gray remover, maybe

27 "Suzanne" songwriter

28 Orbital point

29 "The Simpsons" tavern

31 Show of affection

33 Backgammon piece

34 Oater affirmative

36 Engine conduits

37 Hits errantly, in golf

38 Impassioned

41 State to be in

42 Word with ready or shy

44 Reef

45 Hair-raising site?

47 Undercover operation

52 #2 at the 1994 U.S. Open

54 Swing voter: Abbr.

55 Lodge

56 CD ———

57 Ice cream parlor

59 "La vita nuova" poet

60 Captures, in a way

63 Rachmaninoff's tableaux

64 Indian stringed instruments

65 Make up

66 Like some muscles

67 Poop

68 Impetuous

69 Listen: Sp.

70 British noble, briefly

72 ——— in my memory

73 Certain berth

76 Kind of pie

79 Community spirit

81 Majors in acting

82 Ruling groups

83 Farm resident

84 Part of a split personality

86 Orchestral works

88 Considerable irritant

91 Word in many business names

92 "Star Trek" role

93 Soup kitchen offering

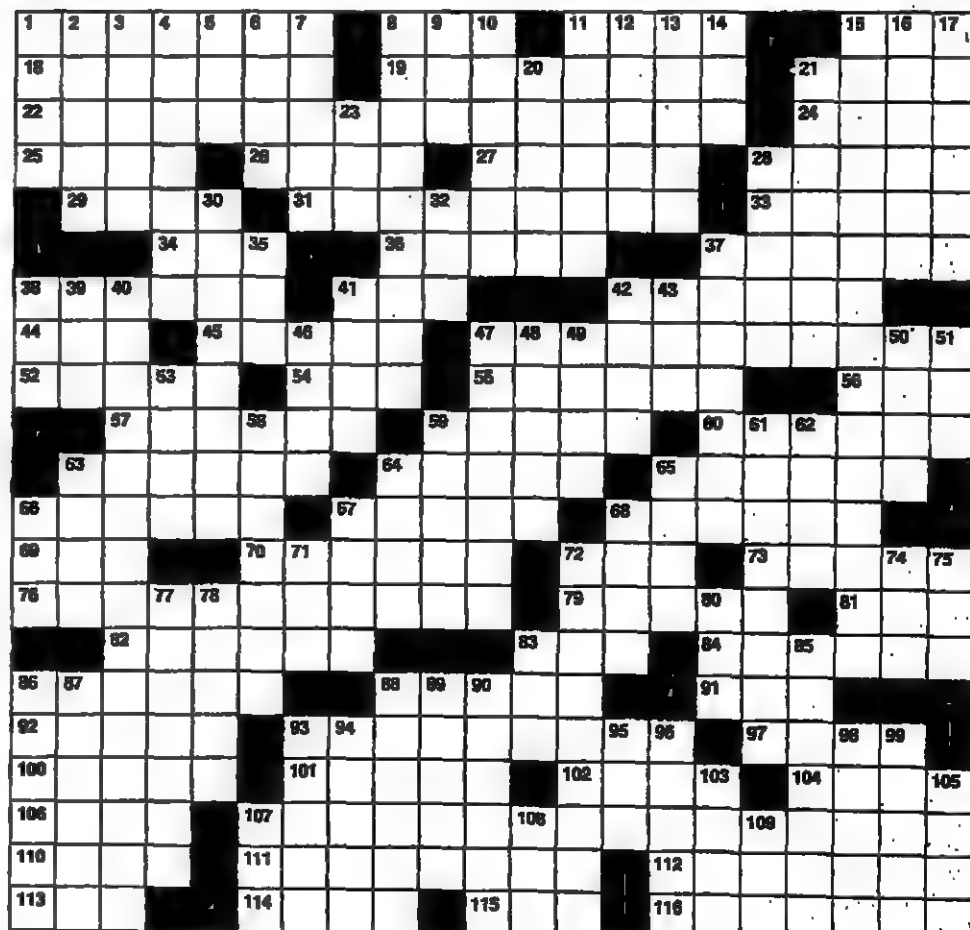
97 Taradiddles

100 Puffball relative

101 Release upon

102 Hotfooted it

104 Clock sound



106 Make money

107 Health care group

110 Sewed up

111 Reserved

112 Totals

113 Christie contemporary

114 Musical syllables

115 Never, in Nuremberg

116 Least irrigated

DOWN

1 Butler's expletive

2 Col. Hannibal Smith's group

3 Cool

4 Relative of an agate

5 Plumbing piece

6 Chancel entrance display

7 Collar inserts

8 Collar

9 Animator's unit

10 Parcels

11 "——— Is Love" (1962 hit)

12 They provide prayer support

13 Brings in

14 1997 U.S. Open champ

15 Long-term pollution concern

16 Data transmission path

17 Actress Armstrong and others

20 Tend the hearth

21 Toaster treat

23 Couple or so

24 Word before and after "to"

30 Parasol

32 Quite a while

35 Fund-raising grp.

37 Seemed funny

38 Sit-up benefactors

39 Squeal

40 Travels of Shane, e.g.

41 Locale

42 Mention

43 Breeze through

46 Items in sync?

47 Imaginary

48 Chaplin and others

49 Mill transports

50 "Are you nervous?" response, à la Don Knotts

51 Diamond execs

53 Gist

58 Hairsplitters

59 Pronouncements

61 Charge with

62 Bribe money, in slang

63 Chacon of the 1962 Mets

64 Still-life subject

65 Hasty

66 Pocket item

67 Holiday purchases

68 Diamond target

71 Company that made Photophones

72 Ford sobriquet

74 Snigger's quest

75 Fam. reunion attendee

77 Castle features

78 "Paper Moon" actor or actress

80 Breakfast orders, briefly

83 J.F.K. posting

85 Emulated Mme. DeMafage

86 Kind of meeting

87 Prize

88 Aquarium acquisitions

89 Track and field events

90 Secure

93 Topps rival

94 Gaucho gear

95 Mill address

96 Longtime Guy Lombardo record label

98 City on the Oregon Trail

99 Dumbarton denizens

103 New Look designer

105 Measure of speed

107 Presidential monogram

108 Star Wars, initially

109 "——— dreaming?"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

DERMAL THECANS REGAL
ARTURO THECANS VOLARE
PRESSCLIPPING AZILLA
COMBAT FIRALY CRO
MILAN LEOI CADALY CRO
ICET JAH GLOBETROTTER
CODERS EGIS LEICHA
ANDERS OVALS REYREND
HOE CALLETTERED ADALTE
REVEYED SYNE FLOHCH
ISLA LEASH HARRY ESTAY
MAITAI STUD TERNATE
ANNE STATEDPOLICE SSI
STERILE RULES CUBANCO
INAVE IPSO ROCCO
TELEGRAPHKEY HALL GURE
ARIS ABIAN SAID REAR
MFG LID VOS STAKED
TIEDIN PATRIOTICUS SSI
ARRIVE ANYONE WIENER
MESSY SASSIER INSANE

Making the Swiss accountable

The first names of holders of dormant Swiss bank accounts will be released this week. Marilyn Henry meets the man behind the bank audit

The Swiss banks, after years of balking, are about to publish the first list of names on dormant accounts, and Paul Volcker doesn't know what to wish for.

"I don't know what is going to happen when we publish these names," he said in an interview in his midtown Manhattan office.

One of the most powerful bankers in the world, Volcker is now in charge of a "forensic" investigation that is intended to resolve once and for all the fate of the dormant Holocaust-era accounts in Swiss banks. For half a century, claimants have insisted there were huge sums in the banks, but they have been stymied in their efforts to locate the assets of relatives who died in the Holocaust, in part, because the banks refused to disclose the names on the accounts. Claimants also were rebuffed because they often lacked documentation to identify an account.

"I don't know whether to sit here fearing that we find a bell of a lot of this stuff, to the enormous embarrassment of the Swiss banks, or we find very little," said Volcker, the former head of the US Federal Reserve. The difference in the estimates of the value of Holocaust-era assets is astounding. The Swiss banks' estimate is around \$38 million. Jewish organizations and political advocates have used figures as high as \$7 billion. That's inflated, Volcker said. "The whole size of the [war-era] Swiss banking system was only \$5 billion." Between the two estimates is what Volcker called the "great never-never land," including funds deposited, and possibly removed, by third parties.

These agents appear to be the wild cards.

The bank accounts are from an era when there were potent exchange controls and specific bans in Germany against the transfer of Jewish wealth abroad. Many of the deposits were made clandestinely by frightened, persecuted people acting through third parties — lawyers, accountants, associates or friends, Volcker said. In some cases, the funds may never have reached Swiss banks at all.

Or, the agents may have closed the accounts, legally or not. "In some cases, it may have been illicit. How do you track that down? Can you blame it on the bank?" Volcker asked. "How do you know if the bank was in cahoots for something that happened 50 years ago?"



Paul Volcker: "I knew it would be controversial and emotional, but I didn't expect it to be quite the cause celebre it has become." Above: Volcker during a visit to Israel. (Arie Jerolimski)

It's been exactly a year since Volcker agreed to head the investigation, which could reach into some 400 Swiss banks that will be asked to account for bank activity from a half-century ago. He was warned, he said, of the practical difficulties, the potential divisiveness and the high emotional stakes — and he took the post, anyway. "I knew it would be controversial and emotional, but I didn't expect it to be quite the cause celebre it has become," he said, jabbing the arm of his chair with a base of a penknife, and leaning on an embroidered pillow that said, "Work is for people who don't know how to fish."

In a dramatic news conference on May 2, 1996, the World Jewish Congress and the Swiss Bankers Association signed a cooperative agreement to oversee the forensic audit. It was a breakthrough.

There had been previous searches of the dormant accounts, notably in the 1960s, but these

were seen as, at best, incomplete. A six-member Jewish and Swiss panel — including Avraham Burg of the Jewish Agency, businessman-philanthropist Ronald Lauder, and Reuben Beraja, of the Argentine Jewish community — was convened, with Volcker (who is neither Jewish nor Swiss) at the helm of what was expected to be a complicated, but technical, task. When asked if he is sorry he ever heard of the dormant accounts, Volcker laughs with a boom, the kind that fits a man who's nearly seven feet tall.

"Well, it is taking a lot more time than I thought," he said. "At times, it gets very acrimonious and it's kind of unpleasant." But there was no "equally promising" approach available, he said, adding that the "genius" of the committee of the WJC and SBA is that "they are both implicated and they are both involved, and they both have an interest in seeing it go."

Volcker, however, has had to rein in efforts to expand his committee's mandate, and often has had to clarify his panel's mission by saying what it is not. The WJC and the bankers have what Volcker called "this little agreement." He was being literal. The pact is only a page and a half long. "The way I read this, our mission is dormant accounts," he said.

"It's not looted assets. It's not what the Nazis took. It's what was deposited, presumably voluntarily, in Swiss banks by refugees. There was some debate about whether this was the correct interpretation, and there are some efforts to say, 'C'mon, let's go after this other stuff.'"

That "other stuff" is known by the shorthand "Nazi gold." It has riveted international attention and prompted the US and most Western European states to review the history of their dealings with the Nazis and the neutral countries during World War II. In a number of nations, commissions have been formed with ambitious, but vague mandates to examine the issue.

The matter got a significant push in May with the publication of an American report on Nazi gold, under the supervision of Stuart Eizenstat, the leading Clinton administration official on restitution. That report challenged Swiss neutrality and said that Switzerland prolonged the war by serving as the Reich's bankers. The Swiss government objected vehemently to Eizenstat's conclusions.

While it is a compelling matter, "gold, it seems to me, from the Jewish point of view is the least of the issue," Volcker said. "Obviously it is very emotional — teeth and rings and so forth — but I think the main story on the gold was 98 percent known 20 or 30 years ago." And that story, he said, was that the Nazis had stolen Dutch and Belgian gold and shipped it to Switzerland. "That was not news, or shouldn't have been news, but of course people have forgotten about it."

FOLLOWING this week's publication of the first names on dormant Swiss accounts, the Volcker Committee's next task will be to institute "an independent and objective international claims resolution panel to definitively and equitably decide claims."

The panel will operate under liberal rules of evidence, which Volcker's panel must develop. "It's one thing to say we are going to have relaxed rules — what are they?" Volcker said.

In the meantime, action is nearing in several class-action lawsuits that were filed in American federal court against Swiss banks, seeking to force the banks to open their books and to pay compensation. At a hearing at the end of the month, a federal judge is to decide whether the US has jurisdiction to hear the case.

Many argue that the lawsuits replicate what the Volcker Committee is doing.

Some of the plaintiffs, on the other hand, reject the panel, contending that the World Jewish Congress did not have the authority or the claimants' consent to represent their demands.

Volcker, meanwhile, plugs away. Under an expedited timetable he developed with the Swiss Banking Commission, the banks must report by September 15 on all foreign and domestic accounts that have been dormant since 1945. A second list of accounts will be published on October 20. The deadline for filing a claim for an account will be six months after the publication of the names. The claims resolution panel will be required to decide claims, along with interest or other adjustments, within six months after the end of the period for the submission of claims.

The question of dormant accounts should be wrapped up next year. "I think some people will be satisfied. I think there will be some amount of money there, unidentified," Volcker said. "This money is somehow a reasonable estimate of what's left over, and it will be made available in some ways to help the remaining victims of the Holocaust."

NOTE: The first list of names on dormant Swiss bank accounts will be published in The Jerusalem Post on Friday, July 25.

Home Front

Mommy managers

By Allison Kaplan Sommer

At a recent gathering of extended family, I witnessed an amazing sight. Sitting around the Shabbat table was a happy, peaceful group of 10 — one nuclear family, eight children and two parents, calmly eating their dinner.

The kids, appearing to range in age from approximately 14 to two, all sat politely at their places in their spotless holiday clothes and ate their meals quietly, passing dishes from one end of the table to the other. Both parents remained seated the whole time, with no need to jump up to cut meat, clean up messes, or stop arguments. They actually seemed to be enjoying themselves.

It was their behavior, rather than the mere size of their family that flabbergasted me. In recent years, as I've been exposed to religiously observant families more often than in the past, I've stopped being completely shocked that women are physically capable of bearing such

children for even one day? How do you keep them safe?

What I find most fascinating are the details: How do you avoid getting everybody's underwear mixed up?

One mother thought I was crazy. Her response: as long as it fits, who cares if one kid wears another kid's clean underwear?

Others had more practical solutions. One mother I know color codes the underwear, putting a dot of a certain color in indelible ink on each little pair of briefs. Every kid has his or her own color.

The biggest challenge, I am told, is keeping the refrigerator stocked. A food-buying schedule must be firmly in place otherwise shopping is a Sisyphean task: food is purchased, it disappears within hours, another trip to the store is necessary.

It is stories like these, and sights like that of the peaceful Shabbat dinner that convince me that these women must have tremendous organizational talents.

When I see women with four, five and more children, I find myself straining to understand exactly how their lives work...How do they avoid getting everybody's underwear mixed up?

large numbers of children, and emerge from more than a decade of constant pregnancy physically intact and relatively sane.

It took a while to reach this stage. The first time I met a woman who told me proudly that she bore 12 children, my mouth dropped open — and other parts of my body ached in sympathy. I've made progress since then. But I have had a hard time liberating myself from the belief that the lives of these women must consist of utter chaos, lacking even a moment of serenity. After all, I have just one baby, and it's amazing how he has managed to turn my life upside down.

So when I see women with four, five and more children, I find myself straining to understand exactly how their lives work. How do these families get through even one day? How do you fit the family into the car?

How do you take the children to the zoo without losing any of them? How do you organize feeding, clothing, and educating eight or 12

This leads me to propose an idea: An employment agency should be set up for women who have more than four children. Once their children are grown and out of the house, I think they should be placed at the head of large companies. Their managerial skills are honed and primed — why shouldn't they go straight to the top and start as CEOs? After all, men cruise into top positions straight from the IDF with no business experience, simply because they are considered good leaders.

In fact, men cruise into the top ranks of politics for the same reason. So how about electing a party leader on the basis of her experience with a brigade of children as opposed to his experience with a brigade of soldiers? She would have substantial experience in managing health, education and social services, living within a budget, and handling complex negotiations with creatures, who, like politicians, often behave rather immaturely. I'd vote for her.

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EARTHLY CONCERNS

Going with — or against — the grain

By DVORA BEN SHAI

As the world population burgeons and more and more people actually starve from the lack of rice, maize or millet, not to mention such a basic staple as bread. It is only natural to question the use of grain used to sustain the beef industry. Since meat is consumed by only a small percentage of the world's population, can we truly justify the enormous expenditure of grain — which could feed vast numbers of people — in order to produce a luxury product for such a small minority?

The moral, ethical aspect of this question becomes an increasingly contentious issue.

While there are many people devoting time and resources to trying to produce more grain, there are others who claim that there's already enough of these cereal products but they are simply being misused. Cultural trends have shown that as soon as a society becomes more affluent, some sectors of society begin to demand meat, particularly high-quality meat. For example, several countries in Asia which have always depended on pork production, to meet their dietary requirements, are now demanding "beefsteak."

To better understand the problems involved in the debate, we must consider the statistics. There is no doubt that beef is a very expensive commodity in light of the resources that go into its production. And here we must factor in its cost both monetarily and environmentally. It takes over five times as much water to produce a kilogram of beef, some five servings. It takes only 330 liters to cultivate a grain-based vegetarian diet for the same number of servings. Over five kilograms of grain products are consumed to produce that one kilo of beef. That same amount of grain would provide a daily ration, that is admittedly poorer in protein but sufficient to nourish and sustain 10 to 12 people. It



Wheat instead of meat? Many claim that a grain-based vegetarian diet could curb world starvation.

is estimated that the 50 million tons of grain used to feed beef cattle every year represents about 80 percent of the total basic requirements of the global population.

Another element to consider is the "slash-and-burn" clearing of forested land to create grazing areas. This is one of the chief causes of the destruction of the world's forests. In tropical rain forests, this practice adds greatly to the erosion of valuable soils, pollution of water sources, and the destruction of vital plants as well as animal habitats. All this contributes to a disturbance of rainfall patterns and interferes with the amount of carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide that is released

into the atmosphere. In the end, this exacerbates global warming. And, adding insult to injury, the land is useful for grazing for only a few years before erosion and other land degradation render it infertile.

So what would happen if beef ceased to be a major item of food production? Would it really be possible to produce enough cereals to feed an ever-hungrier world and conserve important natural resources at the same time? Statistics show this to be a theoretical possibility. But do statistics lie?

The crucial question that remains is whether or not this plan would work, given the nature of humankind and the political agendas of much of the world.

Many vegetarians and vegans claim that meat consumers are the only barrier to ending world starvation. They dismiss all arguments to the contrary as weak rationalizations.

Others question this assumption. They believe that world hunger is not necessarily due to an insufficient food supply but rather to the "politics of famine."

Many people who have worked in famine relief programs in the Far East, in the Indian subcontinent, or in Africa have observed that it is not always the lack of available food that causes starvation but the indifference of governments to the "have-nots" in their societies.

These critics point out one salient fact: Because of dietary concerns, especially over cholesterol, beef consumption in the United States has dropped more than 30% over the past seven years.

But not one grain of extra wheat has been diverted to the famine-stricken areas of the world. In many areas, farmers have been paid subsidies to refrain from growing more grain to avoid a market surplus which would lower the overall world market price of grain. Both financial and political incentives seem to be behind such policies: a valuable commodity like grain means power.

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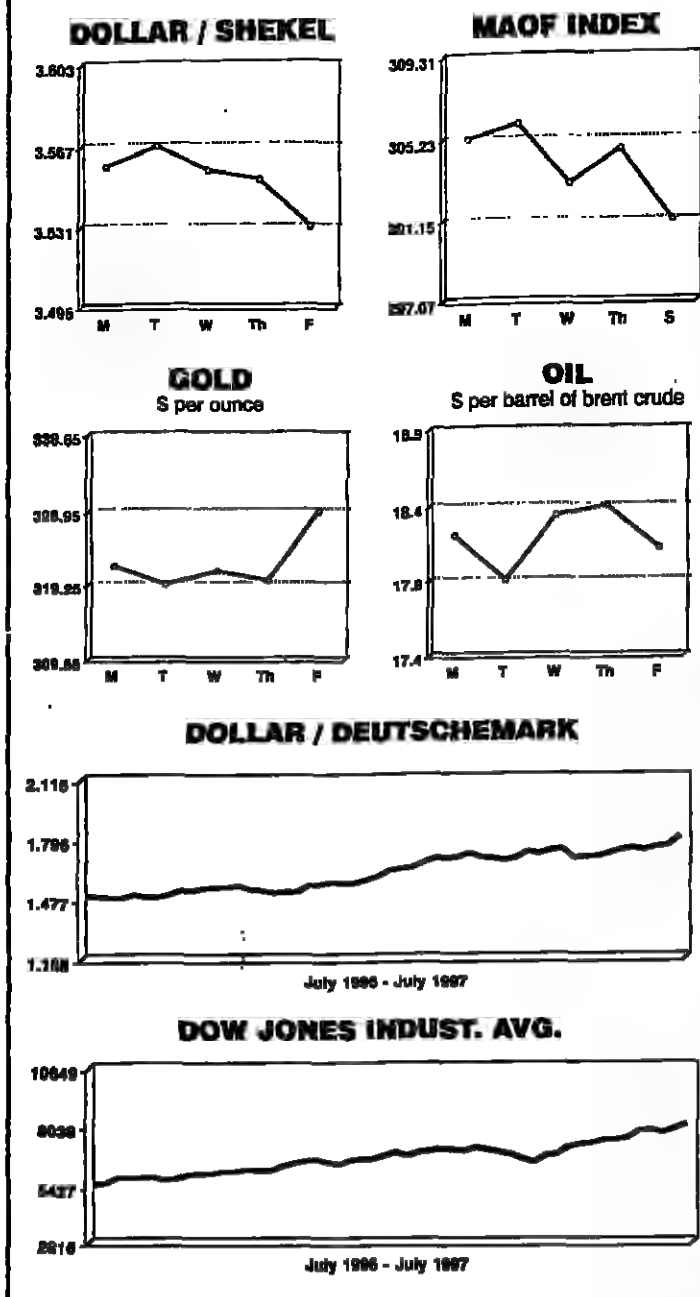
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MARKETS

in brief



Sheetrit: No to gas monopoly

By DAVID HARRIS

Coalition chairman Meir Sheetrit (Likud) yesterday called on the government not to allow the creation of a gas monopoly, as was agreed last week by the Treasury and National Infrastructure Ministry.

Sheetrit also urged the government to introduce a far-reaching bill outlawing all monopolies in the country.

MKs from across the political spectrum say they will oppose the Treasury and National Infrastructure Ministry plan to create a monopoly to run the natural gas industry.

After months of disagreement, the ministries announced they had reached agreement for the creation of a company that would be responsible for the import, distribution and marketing of natural gas.

Israel Electric Corporation (IEC) will also be allowed to import natural gas directly, though it has been prohibited from competing for the gas company tender.

"The differences were in valuing the short- and mid-term," explained one of those involved in the negotiations. This was a reference to the National Infrastructure Ministry's Natural Gas Project management's desire to advance the supply of gas as quickly and efficiently as possible, while the Treasury wants to consider the wider mid-term economic implications, including the creation of another monopoly, despite government policy aimed at greater market freedom.

The National Infrastructure Ministry believes that for the duration of the establishment of a natural gas supply, it is more logical for just one company to be in control.

But several coalition and opposition MKs disagree.

"There is no reason when we already have the IEC and Bezaq for introducing a monopoly in the gas industry," said Avraham Poraz (Meretz). "This is totally unacceptable."

Following the accord reached by the ministries, it is now passed on for consideration to the ministerial economics committee under the chairmanship of Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman. If approved, the plan will then be introduced to the Knesset, at which point Poraz said, he will begin his campaign in earnest against the proposal.

"As an energy bill, it would have to come through the [Knesset] Economics Committee, where it could fall."

Economics Committee chairman Eli Goldschmidt (Labor) said he too will

oppose the proposal, describing it as "a very serious breach of the government's commitment to 'demonopolize'."

Sheetrit, who is still considering the gas agreement, said the need for anti-monopoly legislation is paramount and must be introduced by the government, which can fund a full-time legal adviser who would be needed to work on the complex bill.

"It is crucial that we bring an end to monopolies," said Sheetrit. "All such monopolies mean the public pay more expensive prices."

As a result of the agreement between the ministries, the monopoly will only be guaranteed the tender for a limited, but as unspecified period. When the monopoly's tender period expires, there will be separate tender advertisements for the import, distribution and marketing of natural gas.



Peso paupers

A blind mother named Lina begs with her sleeping baby this weekend on a sidewalk in Baguio City, north of Manila. The recent devaluation of the peso has made the lives of Filipinos on the poverty line even worse. (AP)

Madge plans 10% to 20% job cuts

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Madge Networks (Israel) is expected to lay off 10-20 percent of its 500-person work force following the release of the parent's second-quarter results, an industry insider close to the company said yesterday.

The Tel Aviv-based maker of communications products is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Madge Networks NV of the Netherlands. Oppenheimer & Co. said it expects Madge to finish the quarter with losses of \$0.11 per share. The company will release its results Wednesday evening in California.

The company refused to comment. Madge, the fifth largest computer networking company worldwide, has faced difficulties against larger competitors, such as 3COM. In an effort to increase its competitiveness, the company merged with Lannet Data Communications of Tel Aviv in June 1995. Lannet, which changed its name to Madge (Israel), became the company's research and development arm. But due to a poor fit between the different enterprises, sales fell below expectations and the shares dropped.

Pharmos, Chiron link in drug technology

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Pharmos Corporation and Chiron Corporation announced an agreement to jointly market a technology designed to make protein-based drugs such as insulin and beta interferon more effective, Pharmos said yesterday.

Five years ago, Pharmos and Chiron began developing the drug-delivery technology which aims to better direct drugs to their destination. This increases a treatment's efficacy and decreases the dosage of a drug needed, a company spokesman said.

The deal also represents a significant achievement for Pharmos, a

Florida-based biotechnology company with a research and development center in Rehovot.

"Chiron is a big company, so working with them means prestige, but it also means money," the spokesman said.

The current US market for injectable proteins is \$10 billion.

Pharmos designs drugs for ophthalmic and neurological disorders. The company is currently waiting for the US Food and Drug Administration to approve a treatment designed to cure infections caused by contact lenses.

Based in California, Chiron Corporation develops treatments for neurological disorders.

IEC to raise \$1.3 billion on US, German markets

By DAVID HARRIS

The Israel Electric Corporation intends to raise some \$1.3 billion through a bond sale and credit arrangement in the United States and Germany, according to a

company announcement this weekend.

At its regular board meeting, the company approved the flotation of bonds in the US to the value of \$1b. and a credit line worth DM 600 million (\$334m.) from

Germany.

The capital will go toward funding the company's 1998 \$1.5b. development program, including the building of new major and secondary power stations.

The two financial steps will be implemented towards the end of this year and during the course of 1998. The nature and duration of the bonds has yet to be determined.

The credit line, meanwhile, will be managed by three banks: Kreditanstalt fuer Wiederaufbau, Societe Generale, and Bayerische Landesbank.

In recent years, raising capital through foreign markets has become a major plank in company policy.

Between 1992 and 1996 the company raised DM 980m., principally for funding secondary power stations and purchasing four gas turbines for the Gezer and Rutenberg projects at Ramle and Ashkelon respectively.

Until now, particularly with the Gezer and Rutenberg plants, there has been considerable German involvement.

With IEC envisaging purchasing future supplies on the German market, the company sees a logic in raising capital through the deutschmark. IEC said it believes potential future purchases from Germany could amount to DM 900m.

IEC's investments over the next decade are likely to reach \$12b., according to company chairman Gad Ya'acobi.

In order to do so, he said, the company will continue to raise capital in the US, Europe, and elsewhere.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS				
Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96)				
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.750	5.000	5.375	
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.675	4.000	4.250	
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.825	1.625	2.125	
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.625	0.750	1.000	
Yen (10 million yen)				
Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (18.7.97)				
CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep.
Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	3.7728	3.8335	3.44	3.8096
U.S. dollar	3.5003	3.5558	3.44	3.5320
German mark	1.9521	1.9598	1.91	1.9598
Pound sterling	5.8551	5.9498	5.75	5.9112
French franc	0.5778	0.5872	0.58	0.5832
Japanese yen (100)	3.0274	3.0763	2.97	3.0540
Dutch florin	1.7341	1.7529	1.70	1.7493
Swiss franc	2.3849	2.4031	2.32	2.3854
Swedish krona	0.4489	0.4572	0.44	0.4533
Norwegian krona	0.4722	0.4799	0.48	0.4784
Denish krona	0.5125	0.5205	0.50	0.5170
Finnish mark	0.6805	0.6712	0.64	0.6853
Canadian dollar	2.5430	2.5831	2.49	2.5968
Australian dollar	2.5911	2.6329	2.54	2.6110
S. African rand	0.7678	0.7802	0.69	0.7743
Belgian franc (10)	0.9425	0.9506	0.92	0.9536
Austrian schilling (10)	2.7750	2.8198	2.72	2.7888
Italian lire (1000)	2.0070	2.0394	1.97	2.0252
Spanish peseta (100)	4.8369	5.0186	4.87	5.0391
Egyptian pound	1.0000	1.0000	1.00	1.1126
Irish punt	3.8151	3.8151	3.81	3.8993
Spanish peseta (100)	5.2452	5.3289	5.15	5.2832
	2.8177	2.8551	2.77	2.8367

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.
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in brief

